



# *Just Between Friends*

*Friends of the Hope Borbas Okemos Library*

VOLUME 12 ISSUE 1

WINTER 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:**

Christmas -  
December 24 & 25

New Year's -  
December 31 and January 1 & 2

Martin Luther King Day -  
January 16



## **A Peek at Mystique:**

### *The Dark History of Orchids*

Who could imagine a small beautiful flower being at the center of mayhem, mystery and murder? How could such a refined and wondrous plant be the source of such intrigue? Join the Friends of the Okemos Library to get answers, and to learn the dark past of such a lovely little bloom.

Dispel your winter blahs and meet with us for a couple of hours of exotic flora when Jerrie Nichols of the Greater Lansing Orchid Society brings this history to light as she entertains Friends' members, their guests and the public at the **Mid-Winter Tropical Getaway Event** on **TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 21**, at 7 p.m. at the Library.

Ms. Nichols will have lovely orchids on display as a striking background to the shadowy, stormy history of the plant that she will describe for us. She will also offer tips for growing orchids. This backgrounder will provide us with an insider's view of what to expect at the Greater Lansing Orchid Society's Annual Show and Sale the following weekend at MSU.

These folks are serious about their plants! They know there's more to this delicate, sculptural rarity than the general public knows. These exotic blooms symbolize subtle refinement, luxury and mystery, so prepare to be impressed and inspired about this largest flowering plant family on earth--and one of the oldest.

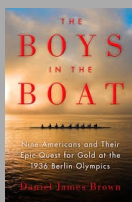
The event is free and open to the public. Refreshments will be served. For additional information, contact Cecelia Kramer, 517-349-3297



## Friends Book Group Reading

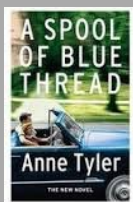
Group meets 1st Thursday of the month at 12 p.m. in the Library Community Room. Casual discussion.

### JANUARY



*Boys in the Boat*  
by Daniel Brown

### FEBRUARY



*A Spool of Blue Thread*  
by Anne Tyler

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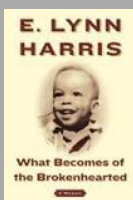
**Counter Lit Book Group (Adults)**  
4<sup>th</sup> Thursdays, • 12 p.m. – 1:30 p.m.

### JANUARY



*Bleed For Me*  
by Michael Robotham

### FEBRUARY



*What Becomes of the Brokenhearted*  
by E. Lynn Harris

## From the Librarian's Desk



## *A Great Big Thank You!*

The *Thank You* list would be long if I wrote all the Friends a Thank You card for a good 2016 at the library. The official membership is over three hundred people strong, although The Friends I routinely see are just the tip of the iceberg: the weekly book sorting crew and the folks who attend the monthly board meeting.

Then there are the heavy lifters who transport the donated books from storage to the Masonic Hall sale site. I don't know if I should actually call these lifters *volunteers* as I know they are commandeered by other family members. Under duress...Who knows?

Following the lifters comes the book sale posse: the sorters and the stackers, and the Friends who work all day Saturday and Sunday at the sale. Yes, these Friends get an early peek at the books, but come on, all that work for a bag of paperbacks? I work a couple of hours on Friday and my knees hurt all weekend.

All Friends, at whatever level of membership or contribution, help make our library a place for study and literacy, community and service. There hasn't been a day when I haven't enjoyed coming to work. Part of that comes from my opportunity to work with the Friends.

Thank you.



Peggy Kelly and Betsy Hull  
at the 2015 Strawberry  
Breakfast

Betsy Hull  
Head Librarian



## From the Friends' President

*Cecelia Kramer, Friends' President*

### *The Role of the Friends of the Okemos Library*

When many area residents who love their library want to do more for it than just own a library card, they join the Friends of the Okemos Library.

The Friends of the Okemos Library is a separate, distinct organization from the Capital Area District Library. The Friends has tax-exempt 501(c)(3) status, so any gifts given to the Friends are tax deductible to the extent of the law. 100% of donors' money assists the Okemos Library with programs, special events, children's activities, upgrading equipment and furnishings, and more. When "extras" go beyond the library budget--or the Township's contribution for building upkeep, the Friends step in to provide a safety net for those needs.

Volunteers are the backbone of the Friends of the Okemos Library. There are no paid officers or staff that do the Friends' work. They are motivated by a love of the library and desire to improve it.

Giving time is the ultimate gift to your library because it takes "people power," in addition to money, to carry out many of the library's programs. For instance, Friends staff information-tables, they create "kitchen magic" to enrich programs and events, and they provide the physical work of sorting and setting up the circa-7,000 books at each of our quarterly used book sales. In other words, Friends deliver the spirited participation and warm touch that make these events memorable.

While dues and donations are of budgetary importance and keep the Friends responsive to library needs, equally important is that old saying, "*many hands make light work.*" If you have a few extra hours a month to offer, consider becoming a Friend. The group is fun and friendly, and would love to work with you! Your time will be richly rewarded, your connections to the community enhanced, and you will be working for an institution you cherish.

Join the Friends of the Okemos Library, the library's official support organization. Meetings are once a month during the school year. If you have questions about how to volunteer, please contact me at (517) 349-3297.

## 2015-2016 OFFICERS

### BOARD OF DIRECTORS

**PRESIDENT**  
CECELIA KRAMER

**VICE PRESIDENT**  
LYNN HILDEBRANDT

**TREASURER**  
KAREN SPOTTS

**RECORDING SECRETARY**  
QUENDA STORY

**MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP  
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





# Friends Visit India

Earlier this Fall the Friends Board of Directors thanked the Friends for their support and membership with a celebration of the Indian heritage. Anshu Varma of Okemos conducted a two-hour capsule immersion “tour” which celebrated the culture, sights, sounds and foods of India. *Photos by Steven E. Wilson*



Display table showing saris, jewelry, foot ware and household items traditionally seen in India.



Anshu Varma, the event presenter, stands next to a mannequin wearing a red sari traditionally used as a bridal gown.



Karen Spotts and Marla Holle staffed the registration table. Cecelia Kramer and Judy Darnell sample the Indian drink Aam Ki Lassi.



Cecelia Kramer looks on while Mo McMullen and Peggy Kelly help serve the Indian food buffet to event participants.



A tasting sample of foods from India: Spicy Samosa, Savory Chole (garbanzo), Veggie pilaf, Paneer (cheese), Tandoori, Chicken Tikka Masala and Naan (bread) offered new taste sensations for the arm chair travelers.



This woven tapestry shows the Indian Elephant, a common artistic theme.



# Okemos Library Events

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## 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 5:** *Boys in the Boat* by Daniel Brown

**February 2:** *A Spool of Blue Thread* by Anne Tyler

### **Counter Lit Book Group (Adults)**

4th Thursdays • 12 p.m. New members welcome.

**January 26:** *Bleed for Me* by Michael Robotham

**February 23:** *What Becomes of the Broken Hearted* by E. Lynn Harris

### **Film Movement Series (Adults & Mature Teens)**

3rd Thursdays • 6:30 p.m.

Please join us each month for another award-winning independent film from around the world. See page 6 for the upcoming Winter 2017 schedule.

### **Conversational Spanish**

Thursdays, January 19; February 9 & 23

• 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.

### **No-Sew Sock Snowman (Ages 10 to Adult)**

Thursday, January 26 • 4:00-5:30 p.m.

We provide the white sock and other supplies. Bring a large striped or patterned sock to cut and any other fabric scraps, buttons or notions. Registration required at info desk. Program limited to 18 people.

### **ESOL Reading Group (Adults)**

Wednesdays, Jan. 4 – Feb. 22 • 12 p.m. - 1:30 p.m.

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

### **Coloring Party for Grown-ups (Adults)**

Saturdays, Jan. 14 & Feb. 11 • 3:00 p.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Leave your kids and worries at home when you relax, unwind and express your creativity through coloring. Supplies provided but bring your own if you like. Seating limited to the first 20 adults to arrive.

### **Mardi Gras Masks (Ages 10 to Adult)**

Thursday, Feb 23 • 4:30 p.m. - 5:30 p.m.

Make your mark with a Mardi Gras mask! Adults as well as older children will enjoy creating a unique mask. Mask and supplies provided. Refreshments provided. Registration required at information desk. Program limited to 18 people.



### **Beaded Bracelets 101 (Adults)**

Fridays, Feb. 24, Mar. 17 • 1:00 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

We'll provide memory wire, beads, elastic and snacks--you provide the creativity. Registration required; call 517-347-2021.

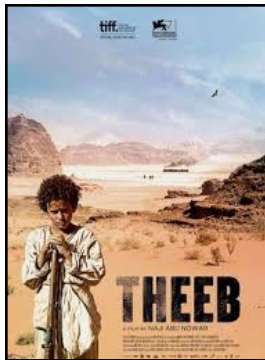




## Upcoming Films

# 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 Winter 2017 schedule:



### **Theeb (Arabic)** – Thursday, January 19 at 6:30 p.m.

In 1916, while war rages in the Ottoman Empire, Hussein raises his younger brother Theeb ("Wolf") in a traditional Bedouin community that is isolated by the vast, unforgiving desert. The brothers' quiet existence is suddenly interrupted when a British Army officer and his guide ask Hussein to escort them to a water well located along the old pilgrimage route to Mecca. So as not to dishonor his recently deceased father, Hussein agrees to lead them on the long and treacherous journey. The young, mischievous Theeb secretly chases after his brother, but the group soon find themselves trapped amidst threatening terrain riddled with Ottoman mercenaries, Arab revolutionaries, and outcast Bedouin raiders.

### **Decoding the Art of Film (Guest Speaker)** – Thursday, February 16 at 6:30 p.m.

Get ready for the Academy Awards with a talk from special guest, Thomas C. Foster, author of the just-released title "Reading the Silver Screen: A Film Lover's Guide to Decoding the Art Form that Moves." Copies of this title, plus others by Foster, will be available for sale and signing.

### **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.



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

## *Last Minute Holiday Gift Suggestion*



Are you looking for the perfect gift for that difficult-to-buy-for special someone? Consider giving a Friends' of the Okemos Library Gift Certificate!

New this year, the Friends' Gift Certificate can be purchased in any denomination starting at \$1.00. It can be redeemed at any Okemos Friends Book Sale throughout the year for books, CDs or DVDs. It can also be redeemed for payment to a Friends' event, or even for a Friends' Membership or Membership renewal.

Give the thoughtful gift that can keep giving all year to cover purchases at any number of used book sales and Friends' events. Obtain gift certificates starting at the December used book sale or by arrangement. See Jim Tellner at the book sale, or contact Cecelia Kramer at 517-349-3297 to make purchasing arrangements.

**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

### *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.



## ***Your Support Matters ~***

### ***Please renew your Membership and/or Contribute***

You may have noticed the self-addressed envelope included in this newsletter. We provide this courtesy to make it convenient for Friends to renew their memberships in the Friends of the Okemos Library.

Without this faithful support from our Friends, we cannot accommodate the postage to bring you this newsletter, nor give additional program support to augment the regular library program offerings, or provide the refreshments at children/teen programs and Sunday Gallery Walks. In addition to these regular and relied-on assists from the Friends, we next hope to add furnishings in the quiet reading area, and to upgrade the chairs in the community room.

How do you know if your membership needs to be renewed? If the date above the name on the address label on this newsletter has expired, it's time to renew. Use the Membership Fee renewal box on the inside of the last page. Those who receive this newsletter by e-mail will receive a notice by "snail mail" at renewal time.

*But wait!* If your membership does not need to be renewed at this time, you can still use this envelope for a **contribution** to the Friends of the Library. We are a 501 (c)(3) corporation, and your gifts are tax deductible to the extent provided by law.

Whether you make it now or later, just know that a charitable gift from you, in addition to your regular membership fees, is always welcome, and can be made any time during the year as a tax deduction.



**2017**  
**Friends Book Sale Dates:**  
 March 4-5, 2017  
 June 3-4, 2017

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

