



# *Just Between Friends*

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

VOLUME 16 ISSUE IV

Fall 2021

## LIBRARY HOURS

### SUNDAY

12 PM - 6 PM

### MONDAY

10 AM - 7 PM

### TUESDAY

9 AM - 8 PM

### WEDNESDAY

9 AM - 8 PM

### THURSDAY

9 AM - 8 PM

### FRIDAY

9 AM - 8 PM

### SATURDAY

9 AM - 7 PM

## **Capital Area District Library Upcoming Closings:**

September 4- 6, 2021  
Labor Day Weekend

November 11, 2021  
Library Inservice

November 25 & 26, 2021  
Thanksgiving

## *We're Baaaaack!*

### *Used Book Sale Events Return*

Adjustments and Work Arounds were the game for over a year and a half during the COVID Pandemic. The Friends' Book Sale COVID response was to make major adjustments to the Used Book Sale regimen by making book collections while gloved and masked at donator's homes as long as the library was closed to the public.

"We've been collecting books from donors at their homes during the course of the COVID Pandemic. Invariably at each stop, people would ask when we would be able to hold a used book sale again," recalled Jim Tellner, chair of the Friends' Used Book Sale. "By July of this year, when authorities eased restrictions, we felt it was safe enough to hold our first used book sale since March 2020. We chose the location of the Old Farmer's Market at Meridian Township Hall, a covered outdoor pavilion, as our sale-site. It was a safe choice. And many folks agreed and were ready to refresh their reading supply."

Our next book sale will be on September 11-12, 2021 at the Masonic Center in downtown Okemos details to come. Look for our postcard announcements.



Thursday Elf Lou Henkel faces two days worth of donations showing why the Friends' have a storage unit and sorting was needed weekly.

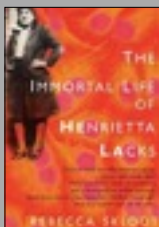


## Okemos Thursday Book Group

Visit [cadl.org/events](http://cadl.org/events) for activities in the system.

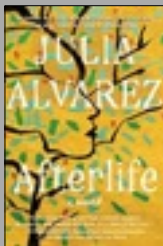
1st Thursdays • 12-1:30 p.m.  
Enjoy casual discussion about listed books.

### September 2nd



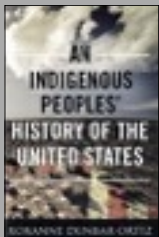
*The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks*  
by Rebecca Skloot

### October 7th



*Afterlife* by Julie Alvarez (Hispanic Heritage Month)

### November 4th



*An Indigenous Peoples' History of the United States* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

## From the Librarian's Desk



Mask on. Mask off.

When one door closes another one opens.

So it goes at the library. We started the summer with our doors closed with appointments only to pick up items or to use the computer.

Then we transitioned to no-appointments needed for anything but masks were required and there capacity limits to how many people we could have in the library at the same. Try telling children they can't get go to a story time because there are already too many kids breathing in the room.

Not a good way for anyone to start the day. It is no fun being the "Fun Sheriff."

Those guidelines then changed and we returned to activities much like prior to March 15, 2020. We had in-person programs, inside the building and outside the building. We had on-line activities. We experimented with hybrid online AND in-person programming. We did it all.

That will be the modus operandi in the future. We will put masks on, if needed. I will play "Fun Sheriff," if needed. We will do whatever it takes to keep everyone safe.

Through it all, The Friends have been supporting our activities. Jim Tellner never met a bag of books he didn't want to pick up and the sorters are always sorting. Family members get commandeered to schlep the sorted books to the storage unit until the next book sale. Volunteers showed up on a hot, humid July day to set up and oversee the most successful sale ever. Rumor has it Jim spent the weekend - days and nights - protecting the set up at the Old Market Pavilion behind Meridian Township Hall.

Dedication, dedication, dedication.

In this newsletter, you'll see a lot of children having fun built around our Summer Reading Challenge. This program is designed to coax families to keep reading together during the summer. Strong reading is always tied to better school performance. But don't tell the kids that, as they think they are just earning little prizes. The same is true with the adults.

The support the Friends provide – be it chalk or popsicles – helps us offer the fun that builds families. Too bad Jim has to sleep at the pavilion to that.....

Betsy Hull  
Head Librarian



## From the Friends President

*Cecelia Kramer, Friends' President*

### *It Takes a Village...*

#### *Behind the Scenes Workers*

Our Friends of the Library group has had the good fortune to have people so willing to share their time and talents to move our group and its programs forward. You already know some of our personnel from the many volunteers who work on the Used Book Sale. This quarterly event calls on folks interested and willing to invest their time at each Book Sale to move boxes from storage, display books, help customers find volumes and cashier the sales -- and we so appreciate their work. (See photos on page 4)

The Friends who need a huge additional burst of applause are those who help us move the marker down the field on a weekly, if not daily, basis. The most noticeable of those helpers are Jim Tellner and those who assist him each week sorting books dropped off at the Friends' Room in the Library: Lou Henkel, Penny Schenker, Karen Spotts and Peggy Kelly. Each Thursday, these Elves commit themselves to assembling and sorting the many boxes and bags of books dropped off weekly, and they ready them for the storage unit. Even yours truly gets into this act most Thursday afternoons.

Another big shout-out goes out to our Internet Savvy Friends, who work to keep our name and presence in the ether of the world wide web. Lynn Hildebrandt started our Facebook page and adds amusing cartoons, witty sayings and book-style inspiration each day. Frequently augmenting these are Board Member Susan Steffel's contributions. Look us up on Facebook: Friends of the Okemos Library.

Susan S. also wears a second hat: each quarter she and Therese Hercher make up the Editing and Proofing Committee for this newsletter. Now, this is a tough job, i.e., to make my writing readable and without error. I'm so grateful for their help, adding polish and accuracy to our publication.

Another Susan, Susan Kelley, works to grow the content on our web site. When you look for back issues of this newsletter for information on past luncheon or news events, that information can be found on our web site, thanks to Susan K. See us at: fotol.org

Another dynamic duo share the Treasurer's Job: Marna Wilson, Past Treasurer and current Support Treasurer, and Karen Spotts, elected Treasurer and part-time Florida resident. They team-review the books to make sure we are current with all bills, non-profit registrations and government tax laws. They make deposits as well as produce monthly detailed statements of our finances. Again, reports provided, checked and worked seamlessly and presented at our meetings through the internet and magic of Zoom.

Most importantly, a great thanks goes to all our Executive Board members who come together monthly, even learning to navigate Zoom to help direct our organization to offer the best support for our Okemos Library.

We couldn't do it without the individual and joint contributions of all these valued "Villagers!"

## 2021-2022 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

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

7:00 p.m. Business meeting. Board meetings are now held via Zoom. To register contact Celia Kramer, 517-349-3297.



# Bringing Back the Book Sale



Volunteers were vital in helping move all of the books from storage to the Okemos Farmer's Market.



All set up and ready for the shoppers



Shoppers peruse the tables searching for their next great read.



Kiwanis volunteers help unload the boxes of donated books.



Thanks to the Haslett Okemos Kiwanis Club for lending 4 members to help haul boxes of books to our July Booksale.  
from left: Bob Scott, Rick Beaderstadt, Jim Tellner, Gail Riegle, Vic Samuelson, Michael Leon, and Dave Rainone

# Okemos Library Events

## Online Events

### **Virtual Okemos Book Group**

1st Thursdays • 12 p.m.

Enjoy a casual discussion about listed books.

September 2 : *The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks* by Rebecca Skloot

Oct. 7: *Afterlife* by Julie Alvarez (Hispanic Heritage Month)

Nov. 4: *An Indigenous Peoples' History of America* by Roxanne Dunbar-Ortiz

### **Virtual ESOL Reading Group for Adults**

Wednesdays, Sept. 8 – Dec. 15 • 12-1:30 p.m.

No session November 24

Practice your English reading and speaking skills by reading articles, books and stories. This group is not formal English instruction. Registration is required by emailing Eric Stanton at [stantone@cadl.org](mailto:stantone@cadl.org).

### **Virtual Mind Benders (Adults)**

2nd Thursdays, Sept. 9, Oct. 14, Dec. 9 • 11 a.m.–12 p.m.

No session November 11

Join us online for word games and puzzles to stimulate your brain and help you to remain sharp and alert.

\*Registration required by emailing: [stantone@cadl.org](mailto:stantone@cadl.org)

You will receive instructions on joining our Zoom session. This program is a collaboration between CADL Okemos and The Meridian Senior Center.

### **Virtual U.S. Citizenship Test Practice (Adults)**

Make an appointment to practice for the U.S. Citizenship / Naturalization Test. \*Call 517-347-2021 x2029 or email [stantone@cadl.org](mailto:stantone@cadl.org) for more information.

### **Virtual Beading 101**

2nd Fridays: Oct. 8 & Dec. 10 • 1–2:30 p.m.

We'll provide supplies, you provide the creativity!

Limited to the first 8 to arrive. Get a green ticket at the info desk up to one hour prior to the start time. Registration is required by emailing Paola Sanchez @ [sanchezp@cadl.org](mailto:sanchezp@cadl.org).

## In-Person Events

### **Ukulele Strum-n-Sing**

3rd Saturdays: Sept. 18, Oct. 16, Nov. 20 & Dec. 18 • 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.

### **Plant Your Natives!**

Saturday, Oct. 2 • 2–3 p.m.

Learn about the benefits of native Michigan flowers. Bring up to three plastic milk cartons to plant different varieties such as Giant Hysop, Black-eyed Susan, Monarda and Butterflyweed, all found around the library!

### **No-Sew Sock Snowman**

Wednesday, Nov. 17 • 4–5:30 p.m.

Create a no-sew sock snowman! We provide the white sock, fleece scraps, buttons or other notions but you may to bring your own. Bring a large striped or patterned sock that can be cut. Limited to the first 15 to arrive. Get a green ticket at the info desk up to one hour prior to the start time.

### **Giant 3-D Snowflakes**

Sunday, Dec. 5 • 1–2:30 p.m.

Make some giant 3-D snowflakes to hang from the ceiling or on a wall. Teens can get community service credit by donating the snowflakes to our library or area hospitals and nursing homes. Limited to the first 15 people to arrive. Get a green ticket at the info desk up to one hour prior to the start time.





# Summer Fun at the Okemos Library

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Drop-in Lego programs were also a popular way to spend a summer afternoon.



Summer Reading Challenge Prize Board. About 6,192 CADL readers registered with 1,334 registering through Okemos.



All CADL locations collected items for the Ingham County Animal Shelter. Okemos readers are always generous supporters of our donation drives.



Summer activities included parking lot chalk.



Mr. Tom was able to resume story times at the library. He was accompanied by violinist Aparna Krishnamurthy.



Sisters Annie, Katie, and Eliza were three of the artists who contributed to Welcome 2021 mural.

## Upcoming Book Sales:



September 11 & 12, 2021

December 4 & 5, 2021

March 5 & 6, 2022

September 10 & 11, 2022

December 3 & 4, 2022

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.

## *Helpers Needed for Friends Used Book Sales*



The Friends quarterly Book Sale event could also use a few more helpers. Workers are needed to take a shift both at set up and at the days of the sale. The jobs include hauling boxes of books from storage; book display; and categories for the sales days; restocking assistance during the hours of the sales; checkout of sales; and cleanup at the end of the day. If you can help with a shift or two at our used book sales it would be most appreciated. Where possible, we will work to accommodate a helper's time preference. Contact Book Sale Committee Chair Jim Tellner for details at 517-775-3959.

The next USED BOOK SALE, our is on September 11 & 12.

The LOCATION of the Fall sale will be at our regular event site at the Masonic Center in Downtown Okemos. (However, because of the fluid Delta variant circumstances, things may change, watch for change-alerts.)



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