

Just Between Friends

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

VOLUME 17 ISSUE III

Summer 2022

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:

July 4, 2022
Independence Day

September 3-5, 2022
Labor Day Weekend

Forgotten History: The Rest of the Story

In a celebration of the First Nations' peoples, the Friends of the Okemos Library welcome their friends to the world of the Anishinaabe of the Great Lakes during the Friends' Fall Tea Event. Restarting the Friends' Calendar after the pandemic with a review of First Peoples' history and modern issues seemed appropriate. We will begin with the history of the Three Fires People long before Michigan was a state. Join the Friends at their annual "*Thank You to the Friends*" Members' Event to find out more about the strong cultural heritage that the First Nations of the Ojibwe, Odawa and Potawatomi share and some of their differences.



Patricia Shackleton, a member of the Sault Ste. Marie Tribe of the Chippewa (Ojibwe), will be our speaker at the Light Brunch Event on **Tuesday, September 13, at 1:00 p.m. at the Okemos Library**. Patricia did her graduate work on the effects of the clash between the dominant white culture and the Native peoples. She will guide us on a tour of both the positive aspects of the Native culture, as well as the more modern issues exemplified by the abduction of native American children, the role of Indian boarding schools in suppressing the

cultural heritage and its long-reaching effects even today, and the results of some of the official government policies. She will also touch on a modern version of the traditional birch bark cutwork, and talk about the craft of Native American storytelling.

Attendees at the Friends' Membership Thank You event will enjoy light refreshments featuring tea and other tasty delicacies. The event is **free for current Friends' members, and \$10.00 for non-members**. Space is limited, so make reservations early, either by mail or at the library. 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 Friday, September 9.

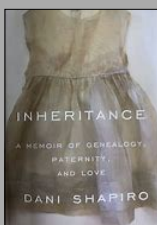
The doors to the event will open at 12:45 p.m. on Tuesday, September 13th. If you have questions, please call Cecelia Kramer, 349-3297, or the Library at 347-2021, ex 3.

Okemos Thursday Book Group

Visit cadl.org/events for activities in the system.

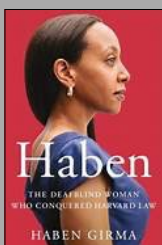
1st Thursdays • 12-1:30 p.m.
Enjoy casual discussion about listed books.

June 1st



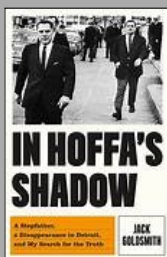
The Children's Blizzard
by Melanie Benjamin

July 7th



Haben: The Deaf Blind Woman Who Conquered Harvard Law
by Haben Girma

August 4th



In Hoffa's Shadow
by Jack Goldsmith

From the Librarian's Desk



The best part of working in the library is not the books I am around, it's the people I get to meet. Take for instance Rita, who is from Nigeria, and is studying to become a nurse. She comes in nearly every day to use the Internet because many of her classes are taught online.

Then there's Shree and his buddy Daniel, who come in after school. Most of the time they study, but once I did have to tell them to take the soccer ball outside - they are, after all, middle schoolers.

Daria was born in Ukraine and moved to the United States as a child. Evelyn was born in France and moved to the U.S as an adult. I talk too loudly and one overheard me recommend to the other the history book called "Bloodlands." Those two sat and talked like they were old friends.

Professor John is an academic, but, if I want recommendations on a new thriller, suspense or mystery novel, he's the expert.

Ron had a great interest in all music from country, opera, classical, and rock. - anything. He went from walking to a wheelchair, then back to walking! Then back to wheelchair and he kept checking out music to his end. I am sure he is swingin' with Count Basie now.

The babies I read to in baby story time learn to rollover, crawl and then toddle off to the big kids' story time with Mr. Tom.

There are more stories I could tell about people. People who's names I do not know. But that is the way it is in the library world. Our lives connect over music, a book or a computer and we move on. We never really know how to measure the success.

As a member of the Friends, your connection might be a yearly membership, while some help out at the book sales, and still others are doing the weekly book sorting and box lifting. All of those connections support the Ritas and the Rons and the kids with the soccer ball.

And that's how we make a difference.

Betsy Hull
Head Librarian



From the Friends President

Cecelia Kramer, Friends' President

Expanding Our Direction

I like to think of our 'Friends of the Library' as like-minded and open people interested in broadening the horizons of the many. We recognize that over time the Library expanded from books, to newspapers, then magazines, audio and video media, foreign language sections, and computers. All were added to stay in tune with technology and the times.

Toward that end—back before the COVID pandemic—our Friends had charted a course parallel to the Capital Area District Library events committee, which planned to have as its guest the award-winning Native American author Tommy Orange. Tommy's novel, "There, There," follows the modern First Nation people's struggles to survive and thrive in Oakland, California.

The Okemos Hope Borbas Library planned a similar event. It was going to be a speaker from the Nokomis Center talk about Chief Okemos and our area's history. Our Friends' event was planned to give context to Native Americans by focusing on Anishinaabe groups with a close look at the Mid-Michigan Chippewa Indian clans. It would expand our understanding of the First People's society when the explorers and pioneers arrived. This is a slice of Michigan history which until very recently was not included in educational studies of our state, or the nation. However, just as we were prepared to tell these stories, COVID hit, interrupting everything for two long years.

As we now prepare to resume our calendar of events, our local area has faced a renewed controversy regarding Okemos High School's Team Mascot name change from Chieftains to Wolves. It would seem that now is the proper time to resume our Calendar of Events with our earlier planned program to help increase awareness. We look forward to hearing the stories that will widen our knowledge of one of the many diverse cultures existing in our country.

We are proud to restart our Friends' events calendar with this Fall's presentation by Patricia Shackleton. Patricia is a member of the Sault Ste. Marie tribe of Chippewa Indians—(see event information on front page)—and her presentation will educate our members on the history of the tribes in the Okemos area, and offer us a sensitivity to this minority's culture.

Because there are so many other minorities and cultural groups which could bear this same close examination for greater public appreciation, we invite you, our readers, to let us know of other topics or speakers from whom our Friends' members could learn something new. We are interested in offering other subjects of a broad appeal as we begin setting-up next year's events.

2021-2022 OFFICERS

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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 Cecelia Kramer, 517-349-3297.

Okemos Library Events

Okemos Book Group

1st Thursdays • 12 p.m.

Enjoy a casual discussion about listed books. Registration is required by emailing stantone@cadl.org.

June 1: *The Children's Blizzard* by Melanie Benjamin

July 7: *Haben: The Deaf Blind Woman who Conquered Harvard* by Haben Girma

August 4: *In Hoffa's Shadow* by Jack Goldsmith

Virtual ESOL Reading Group for Adults

Wednesdays, June 1 & 15, July 6 & 20, August 3 & 17

• 9:30 - 11:30 a.m.

Grab your cup of coffee or team and join us online to practice your English through informal conversation. This group is not formal English instruction. Registration is required by emailing Eric Stanton at stantone@cadl.org. You will receive a link to join the ZOOM session.

Virtual Mind Benders (Adults)

Thursdays, June 9, July 14 & August 11 • 11 a.m.

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.

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

Virtual Ukulele Strum-n-Sing (Teens & Adults)

Saturdays, June 18, July 16 & August 16

• 10:00 a.m. - 12 p.m.

Strum-n-sing along with the Michigan Capital Ukulele Players. Monthly theme and tunes posted on MICUP Facebook page. Contact Jack at jack.nolish@gmail.com for a link.

Beaded Bracelets 101

Fridays, June 24 & August 12 • 1-2:30 p.m.

We'll provide memory wire, beads and elastic cords - you provide the creativity! Seating is very limited - get a green ticket at the info desk before the program.

Galaxy Bracelet (Teens & Adults)

Friday, July 8 • 1:00 - 2:30 p.m.

Create out of this world jewelry! You are the sun, so that all the planets turn around you! We'll provide the supplies. No children at this session, please. Seating is very limited - get a green ticket at the info desk before the program.



About 40 Okemos students enjoyed an after-hours teen night at the library. They enjoyed board games, Karaoke, making Shrink-Dinks, a photo booth and played 4-Square in the library. No artwork or computers were damaged during the event. The Friends of the Library supplied the refreshments. The event was organized by the library's Teen Advisory Board.

CADL Staff Receives Award

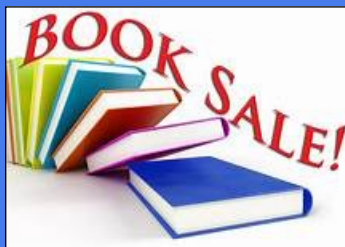


For her exceptional service to the community through the Women United division of Capital Area United Way, Okemos Library Assistant Andrea R. was recognized with the Paula Cunningham Lighting the Path Award. Way to go Andrea!

This was awarded at their 17th Annual Lighting the Path Luncheon, an event that draws over 200 women from the Lansing region to celebrate the successes, struggles, and influence of female leaders.

Andrea (left) was a long-time Lansing School District teacher and administrator. She came to work at CADL after her retirement from the school district. Paula Cunningham (right) is a former president of Lansing Community College and is now the director of the Michigan office of the American Association of Retired Persons, (AARP).

Upcoming Book Sales:



June 11 & 12, 2022
July 30 & 31, 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. * July sale to be held at the Old Farmers Market Pavilion. COVID masking requirements at Friends' events will mirror those of Meridian Township.

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.



Tip of the Hat

Our newsletter's first Tip of the Hat article was in 2009, and it is a singular moment when we acknowledge a Board Member twice with this honor giving further recognition for service above and beyond the original commitment to our organization.



We first acknowledged Jim Tellner in 2012 for laboring so intently on behalf of the Friends, focusing particularly on his organizing, staff recruitment, and managing of the quarterly book sales. This he has done since the early 1990s. It's not a job limited to the actual two-days of each sale, four times a year. What the public does not see is the ongoing, many-hours-per-week unpaid, back-breaking prep-work and clean-up involved in his commitment.

But, at this time, with an appreciative flourish the Friends offer another "Tip of the Hat" to highlight Jim's strengths during COVID. Through his colossal efforts, our group was the only Friends' organization in Ingham County to continue to collect books. Jim did much of this on his own throughout the pandemic. During COVID, access to our library was restricted and the Friends' Room was commandeered for a library book storage facility to 'hold' the returned library books until they could be safely return-processed. That contingency left the Friends without a

'headquarters.' Jim solved the problem by driving to people's homes to pick up books, then taking them directly to our storage facility where they were sorted outside then stored for our current sale.

Jim's continued commitment to our Friends organization is without par. 'Multi-tasking' is too weak a word for how Jim helps us. He exemplifies what it means to be a true Friend of the Library. We award Jim Tellner a Tip of the Hat salute.



517-347-2021

Okemos, MI 48864

4321 Okemos Road

Okemos Library

Friends of the Hope Borbas