

Just Between Friends

Friends of the Hope Borbas Okemos Library Newsletter • Vol. 18 • Issue 2
4321 Okemos Road, Okemos, MI 48864

Spring 2023

IS MERIDIAN TOWNSHIP REALLY ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY: FACT OR MYTH

Get a jump on the April's focus on the environment. Earth Month turns our attention to efforts that lessen our impact on the environment with its center resting on sustainability, recycling, reusing, and lessening our carbon footprint.

Find out what is happening locally to bring Meridian Township into compliance with these lofty, environmentally-friendly goals. On **Tuesday, March 21 at 1 p.m., at the Okemos Library**, join the Friends of the Library as we review the latest efforts by Meridian Township as described by **LeRoy Harvey**, Environmental Programs Coordinator for the Township's Green Team. LeRoy will review the latest environmental impact solutions at our annual Friends' Spring event.

This event is free to current members of the Okemos Friends and memberships will be available at the door for non-members. A light lunch of finger foods and beverages will be provided. Contact the Library Information Desk **517-347-2021 ext. 3 for a reservation.**



LeRoy Harvey

LeRoy's Green Team at Meridian Township facilitates the township-wide initiatives, offers educational seminars, and works on climate initiatives, stormwater management, recycling, and wetland protections. In 2007 the Township joined over 1000 other communities in signing onto the U.S. Mayor's Climate Protection Agreement. The long-term goal of this initiative is to significantly reduce greenhouse gas emissions. The implementation of the agreement will enable us to make the community a more sustainable, vibrant, and desirable place to live while also making gains in energy efficiency.

LeRoy's team is working toward attaining significant energy and water cost savings in the Township fleet and facilities with short-term goals of obtaining 50% of our electricity needs for government facilities through renewable resources by 2025 and by reducing the amount of materials sent to landfill by 10% in five years.



LIBRARY HOURS

Sunday	12 p.m. to 6 p.m.
Monday	9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Tuesday	9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Wednesday	9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Thursday	9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Friday	9 a.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday	9 a.m. to 7 p.m.

CAPITAL AREA DISTRICT LIBRARY UPCOMING CLOSURES

- Sunday, April 9, 2023
Easter
- May 27-29, 2023
Memorial Day Weekend

**FRIENDS BOARD
OF DIRECTORS
2022-2023**

President

Cecelia Kramer

Vice President

Linda Minter

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Lynn Hildebrandt

Treasurer

Karen Fraser

**Meridian Township
CADL Representa-
tive**

Sandy Drake

Friends Meetings

Second Thursday of each
month

September through May

6:00 p.m. Social

6:20 p.m. Business Meet-
ing

Friends Membership

Annual dues are:

Individual \$10.00

Family \$15.00

Patron \$25.00

Business \$50.00

Lifetime \$300.00

Donations gratefully
received and accepted.

Memberships and Dona-
tions may be sent to the
Friends of the Okemos
Library, 4321 Okemos
Road, Okemos Michigan
48864. The Friends is a
501 (c)(3) corporation.
Gifts are tax deductible to
the full extent of the law.



PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

BY CECELIA KRAMER

The Part You Play

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

While dues, donations, and staffing of events are of budgetary importance and keep the Friends responsive to library needs, equally important is that old saying "*many hands make light work.*" More input not only helps get the necessary work done, but also helps determine future projects our group takes on. Please consider becoming a member of the Friends' Executive Board. The Board 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 that supports our beloved library.

The Executive Board meets once a month during the school year to direct the Friends' projects and events that keep our group running smoothly and support programs that enhance the library patron's experience. Please contact Cecelia Kramer at (517) 349-3297 for further details.

Collect Call to All Friends

The art of collecting is alive and well—not to mention, downright fun! In a recent talk with the Friends of the Library, it appears that books are not the only things many of them collect. They hunt for other intriguing items too. In fact, the variety of collectibles is virtually endless, ranging from coins and rocks, jewelry, stamps, records, teacups and buttons, to odder things like colored glass and ceramic frogs, old toys, sheet music, bird eggs—the list goes on. Some of these collections are at a cataloged, world-quality level, while others are just an assembly of similar items that caught a collector's eye at garage-sale excursions.



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FROM THE LIBRARIAN'S DESK



This year the Capital Area District Libraries is celebrating its 25th Anniversary, and there is no better time to visit and celebrate the library than during *March is Reading Month*. This month-long celebration is encouraging people of all ages to read every day. At our Okemos and Haslett Branches we will be highlighting the works of picture book authors Jane Yolen and Bob Shea, and in addition to our regular line up of story times and book clubs, we will be capping the month off with a dinosaur-themed line up of programs during Spring Break, March 27-31.

But *March is Reading Month* is not just for the kids. We encourage everyone to take the time to open a book and read this spring. Step into a story and be transported to a different place or time, see the world through another's eyes or learn something new. When you have had your fill of reading join us for one of many great events happening at the library this spring. Celebrate Women's History Month as Pamela Withrow shares her experiences as the first female warden of an all-male prison. Improve your own writing during a writing workshop with local author and instructor Kevin Fitton. Hear how stories are brought to life on stage from MSU's Head of Theatre Studies, Dr. Ann Folino White as she shares her recent experience directing an adaptation of the Children's Classic *Charlotte's Web*. Lose yourself in the poetry of spring during a reading from a panel of Lansing Area Poets.

In April we turn our focus outdoors with the return of our Seed Sharing program where you can pick up seeds from the library to grow your own wildflowers and vegetables. Then join us for Gardening 101 on April 8 (at the Haslett Branch), decorate your own plant stakes on April 14, and learn about floral arranging April 27.

Whether you attend an event, check out a book, or simply sit and use our wi-fi, we will be happy to see you in the library this spring, so come on in and say, "Hello!"

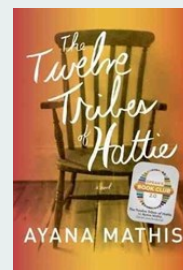
Tom Moore

Regional Head Librarian, CADL Haslett | Okemos

FRIENDS BOOK GROUP

Join the group for casual discussion on adult fiction and non-fiction titles.

First Thursdays, 12—1:30 p.m.



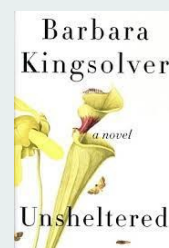
The Twelve Tribes of Hattie by Ayana Mathis

March 2



Lab Girl by Hope Jahren

April 6



Unsheltered by Barbara Kingsolver

May 2

BOOK SALES



March 4-5, 2023



June 3-4, 2023



July 23-24, 2023



September 9-10, 2023



December 2-3, 2023



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, 2175 Hamilton Road, Okemos. From 9 a.m. to 5 p.m.

July sale only to be held at the Old Farmers Market Pavilion, 5151 Marsh Road, Okemos. Friends' early-buying privileges run for a half hour prior to the opening of each sale.



FILM MOVEMENT SERIES

Please join us each month for another award-winning independent film from around the world. For more information contact Eric Stanton, Public Services Librarian, at (517) 347-2021 ext. 2029. Here is our upcoming schedule:

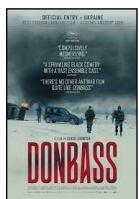
Note: our film screenings have moved to a new time, 6:00 p.m.



Corpus Christi (Poland – Polish) • Thursday, March 16 at 6:00 p.m.

Anchored by a “dynamically physical, wild-eyed performance” (The Hollywood Reporter) from newcomer Bartosz Bielenia, *Corpus Christi* is an incisive, darkly humorous, and “engrossing exploration of faith, second chances and the possibility of atonement” (Screen).

After spending years in a Warsaw prison for a violent crime, 20-year-old Daniel is released and sent to a remote village to work as a manual laborer. The job is designed to keep the ex-con busy, but Daniel has a higher calling. Over the course of his incarceration he has found Christ, and aspires to join the clergy - but his criminal record means no seminary will accept him. When Daniel arrives in town, one quick lie allows him to be mistaken for the town's new priest, and he sets about leading his newfound flock. Though he has no training, his passion and charisma inspire the community. At the same time, his unconventional sermons and unpriestly behavior raise suspicions among some of the townsfolk - even more so as he edges towards a dark secret that the community hasn't revealed in the confessional booth.



Donbass (Ukraine – Russian & Ukrainian) • Thursday, May 25 at 6:00 p.m.

In the Donbass region of Eastern Ukraine, mid-2010s: a hybrid war takes place, involving an open armed conflict alongside killings and robberies on a mass scale perpetrated by Russian-separatist gangs. In the Donbass, war is called peace, propaganda is uttered as truth, and hatred is declared to be love. Life is suffused with fear and suspicion. What is real and what is fake news? Called "a darkly satirical omnibus of scathing vignettes" by the Washington Post, *Donbass* serves as a crucial interpretation of the Russo-Ukrainian war, but the film is not, ultimately, a tale of one region or one conflict. It is about a world lost in post-truth and fake identities. It is about each and every one of us. "There is no other antiwar film quite like *Donbass*" (Los Angeles Times).

Spring Break Activities

Going on a Dino Hunt (All Ages) [AT CADL HASLETT]

Join Ms. Kate for a special interactive evening storytime. Listen to stories and follow Ms. Kate around the library to hunt for a dinosaur.

Monday, March 27 • 6-6:30 p.m.

Dino Game Day (All Ages) [AT CADL OKEMOS]

Join us for dinosaur themed games and activities at the Okemos Library! Feed the T-Rex with the dino toss, craft your own dinosaur skeleton, dig for dinosaurs and help create decorations for the library.

Tuesday, March 28 • 2-3:30 p.m.

Dinosaur Crafts (All Ages) [AT CADL HASLETT]

Join Ms. Kate for a special dinosaur themed craft event.

Wednesday, March 29, 1-4:30 p.m.

Dinosaur Camp: Family Movie (All Ages) [AT CADL OKEMOS]

Bring your sleeping bags and camp out while we watch *Ice Age: Dawn of the Dinosaurs* (PG). Popcorn provided.

Thursday, March 31 • 5 p.m.

UPCOMING EVENTS AT THE OKEMOS LIBRARY

ADULTS

Friends Book Group (Adults)

Join the group for casual discussion on adult fiction and non-fiction titles. See page 3

First Thursdays, March 2, April 6, May 4 • 12–1:30 p.m.

ESOL Reading Group (Adults)

Practice your English reading and speaking skills by reading articles, books and short stories aloud. Please note that this group is not a formal English instruction.

Wednesdays, March 1- May 24 • 12:30-2 p.m.
No class March 8 and May 17

Beaded Bracelets 101 (Teens & Adults)

We'll provide memory wire, beads, and elastic cords--you provide the creativity. *Limited to the first 12 to arrive.

*Get a green ticket at the info desk before the program.

Fridays, March 17, April 7, and May 12 • 1 p.m. - 2:30 p.m.

Ukulele Strum-n-Sing (Teens & Adults)

Strum-n-sing along with the Michigan Capital Ukulele Players. Bring your own uke. Monthly theme and tunes posted on MICUP Facebook page. If you prefer to join online, contact Jack at jack.nolish@gmail for a link.

Saturday, March 18, April 15, and May 20 • 10:30 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Fiber Arts Group (Adults)

Meet with your fellow fiber crafters (knitting, crochet, cross stitch, weaving) to work together.

Thursday, March 9, April 6, May 4 • 2-3 p.m.

Writing Workshop

Author Kevin Fitton will lead a workshop exploring the role setting plays in fiction. Writers will learn how to create vivid settings that will contribute to the story and help build character. He will use examples from his own work as well as from some of our great contemporary authors. Open to writers of all genres and skill levels. After the workshop, join Kevin for a discussion of his new collection of short stories, *Auras*. *To register for the workshop, visit www.cadl.org/events.

Saturday, March 4 • 2-3:30 p.m.

Author Talk and Q & A with Kevin Fitton

Join local author, Kevin Fitton, for a discussion of his new book, *Auras*. Fitton will read a short selection, discuss the themes that gave shape to this collection of fourteen stories, and answer questions from the audience.



Saturday, March 4 • 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Six Voices in Spring: Poets Speak (Adults)

Six Lansing area poets will provide their own unique perspectives on for a topic-based poetry reading. Join them to explore themes like: Roots; Finding My Place; Exploring; Dealing with Obstacles; and Internal Combustion during this quick paced, expressive poetry reading

Thursday, March 30 • 6:30-8 p.m.

Directing Charlotte's Web

The Wharton Center for Performing Arts will be hosting a stage adaptation of *Charlotte's Web* at the Fairfield Theatre in February (2/17-2/26), directed by MSU Professor and Head of Theatre Studies, Dr. Ann Folino White. Join us to learn about Dr. White's experience directing the classic children's tale and what is really involved in making a production come to life.

Thursday, March 23 • 6:30 –7:30 p.m.

Welfare to Warden—at CADL Haslett

Born into an Indiana farm family near the midpoint of the 20th century, moved to Michigan in the turbulent '60s, and was a pioneering woman in the Michigan Department of Corrections. Pam Withrow will share her story of how she became the first woman to head a male prison in Michigan. Join us to learn about her remarkable career.

Thursday, March 2 • 6:30 –7:30 p.m.

Beaded Plant Stake Decorations (Adults)

Join us on April 14th to jazz up your potted plants with an easy to make copper plant stake decoration. Basic materials provided; feel free to bring your special decorations or favorite things to embellish your plant stake. * Limited to the first 12 to arrive. Get a green ticket at the info desk before the program.

Friday, April 14 • 1 –2 p.m.

Floral Arranging and Garden Tips with Sparrow Bloom Co. (Adults)

Learn about flower arranging and some spring garden tips with Becca and Kait of Sparrow Bloom Co. *Limited to the first 20 people to arrive. Get a green ticket at the info desk before the program.

Thursday, April 27 • 6:30-7:30 p.m.

Gardening 101—at CADL HASLETT

Learn how to start and maintain a beautiful and productive organic garden while saving time and energy and working with nature. Topics will include:

- Weedless Gardening
- Soil health & Composting
- Planting & Plant Tips
- Easy Irrigation
- Season & Climate considerations
- Pest & Disease Management

A variety of free seeds and take-home educational materials will also be provided. Presented by Matthew Romans, Garden Project Education & Program Specialist, Greater Lansing Food Bank

Collecting ... Continued

Collectors themselves are an interesting lot. Not everyone collects for the monetary value involved. Many others are emotionally driven, motivated more by finding the quirky, the unique, the rare--or by some other inspiration.

This is where you come in. The Friends would like to feature some of your small-item collections at the library for others to admire. We have a locked display case with a glass shelf. It isn't big and--unless you are into minia-
tures--it probably won't hold your entire compilation. Nonetheless, we would love to put your collection, or a part of it, on display at the library for two months, and we will help you get your grouping displayed attractively. A brief explanation of what the viewer sees can accompany the display.

If you have a collection that you think would be of interest to others, please call Cecelia Kramer at 517-349-3297 and leave your name, phone number, and brief description of the collection.



Mid-Century collection



517-347-2021

Okemos, MI 48864

4321 Okemos Road

Friends of the Okemos Library