



Friends of the Lakewood Libraries

NEWSLETTER

Publication 2024

Issue # 1

Locations

Angelo Iacoboni Library 4990
Clark Avenue Lakewood CA
90712-2676
562-866-1777

George Nye, Jr. Library 6600
Del Amo Boulevard
Lakewood CA 90713-2306
562-421-8497

Join Our Community!
Celebrate and Volunteer!



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Current News From Our Libraries

Hello Friends! There's an exciting new addition at Iacoboni Library! We now have several new self-checkout machines - customers can check out items, request books, or even reserve the meeting room at the new kiosks. Staff are still available to help with any of those services or show you how to use the new machines - we always love interacting with our Friends and neighbors!

If you haven't had a chance to drop by Nye Library in a while, come by and say hello! The City of Lakewood has been hard at work refreshing the landscape and their efforts have provided a beautiful new greeting to library visitors. Along with regular Smarty Pants Storytime for our younger visitors, Nye continues to offer school-aged (children ages 6-12) art activities and learning opportunities.

Smarty Pants Storytime for young children continues to be a staple at Iacoboni Library, while school-age children can enjoy hands-on learning at Iacoboni's monthly STEAM storytime. Iacoboni's Teen Librarian is also hosting several programs for teens and creating fun ways for them to get involved with the library! Finally, due to popular demand Iacoboni has added an afternoon session for our monthly Book Club - we meet on the last Tuesday of the month at 6 pm and the last Wednesday of the month at 3 pm.

Both Nye and Iacoboni are preparing for the upcoming April 8 solar eclipse event, which will bring another round of solar eclipse glasses giveaways for all ages. Some supplies in this giveaway art activity kit were made possible by you, our wonderful Friends of Lakewood Libraries! For more information about these, and other programs please visit the library or visit our websites at LACountyLibrary.org/George-Nye-Jr-Library or LACountyLibrary.org/Angelo-M-Iacoboni-library. We look forward to seeing you!



FRIENDS OF THE LAKEWOOD
LIBRARIES (FOLL)

www.lakewoodlibraryfriends.org

FOLL Book Sale

Blossom with books!

APRIL 20, 2024 • SATURDAY

9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

ANGELO M. IACOBONI LIBRARY

4990 Clark Avenue Lakewood, CA
90712

562-866-1777

Presale Event - For Members Only

**Friday, April 19, 2024 from 10:00 AM -
4:00 PM**

**HARDBACK BOOKS \$1.00
AND UP!**

PAPERBACK BARGAINS!

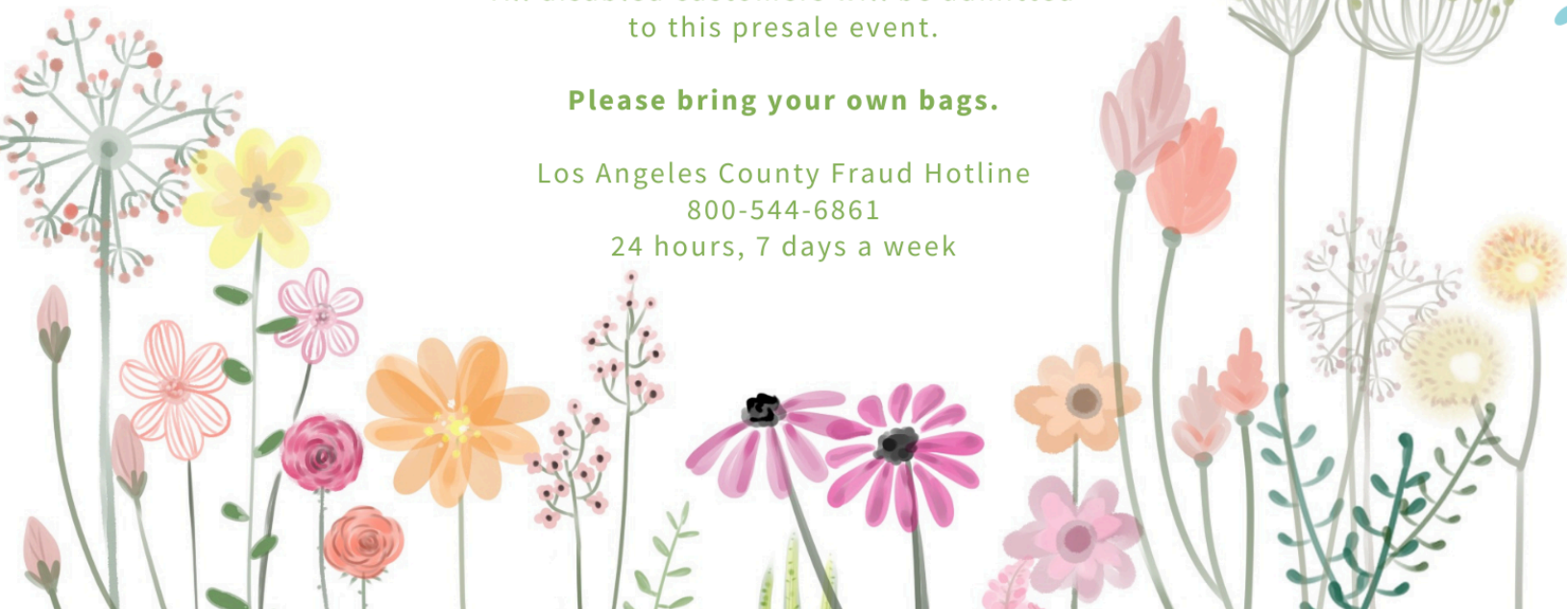
MEMBERSHIPS

- Memberships are available at the door for Friday Shopping!
- Membership dues are 100% tax deductible

All disabled customers will be admitted to this presale event.

Please bring your own bags.

Los Angeles County Fraud Hotline
800-544-6861
24 hours, 7 days a week



Renewal Time...

The Friends of the Lakewood Libraries (FOLL) is thankful for your help in our effort to enhance programs, services and materials at our local Lakewood libraries.

Enclosed you will find a membership renewal envelope. Please take the time to complete and return it to us by mail, bring it to the book sale, or drop it off at the FOLL bookstore inside the Iacoboni Library.

We truly appreciate your membership, and we look forward to seeing you during the Spring Book Sale on April 20th and for members only April 19th.

Diane Wamba, Membership Coordinator



Webmaster Dan Wamba's Corner

Hi Friends of Books,

I am happy to offer a description of the website status to support our newsletter. Recent updates to our website include:

- 2024 calendar dates with a countdown to the next book sale
- Bookmark art from the County Library contest last November
- Tantalizing stories from the writing contest at Iacoboni Library last October
- The latest scholarship applications and other news.
- Please visit our website and enjoy the read.

Dan Wamba, Webmaster for FoLL
90712foll@gmail.com

Presidential News

Margene Stevens, President

As a suggestion during a recent meeting of the FoLL Board of Directors, we asked for and received some fascinating book recommendations by a few of our volunteers. Along with absorbing all of the information in this issue about what's happening at both libraries, the Book Sale, scholarship opportunities, and membership renewal, I hope you'll have time to also enjoy them.

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"The Weekly Coaching Conversation" by Brian Souza

I recommend "The Weekly Coaching Conversation" by Brian Souza. An old manager of mine loaned me this book, and I found it informative and educational. It made me change my managing approach from being there when my team needed me to formalizing one-on-one meetings with each reporting every two weeks. The book emphasizes the importance of coaching, drawing a parallel with sports, stating that just like you don't draft the best sports talent to the professional leagues and then say, "you got it from here," you need to coach employees. Another impactful point was, "your job as a manager is to get every ounce of potential from each team member."

The book is presented as a "business fable," starting with a salesperson who won salesperson of the year but felt let down when none of those who report to him showed up for drinks to celebrate his success. It addresses a common hurdle for those promoted through the ranks from

production to management, explaining how to pivot and put your team first. I highly recommend it.

Additionally, "Happiness Is a Serious Problem" by Dennis Prager caught my interest with just its name. As one of my favorite thinkers, Prager's book exceeded my high expectations. Its subtitle, "A Human Nature Repair Manual," suggests its practical nature, and it delivers. While I won't attempt a full review, the titles of the major parts and a few short individual sections showcase why it is so impressive.

Part I: Premises includes: Unhappiness Is Easy – Happiness Takes Work, The Mind Plays the Central Role, There Is No Good Definition of Happiness, Happiness is a Moral Obligation, and Life Is Tragic.

Part II: Major Obstacles to Happiness and How to Deal with Them includes 13 topics covering: Comparing Ourselves with Others, Expectations, Equating Happiness with Success and Fun, and Seeing Yourself as a Victim.

Part III: Attitudes and Behaviors that Are Essential to Happiness covers 12 topics including: Happiness is a Byproduct, Seek to Do Good, and Find and Make Friends.

It's the kind of "repair manual" that's valuable to everyone.



FoLL Weblinks

- Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheLakewoodLibraries/>
- Website: <http://www.lakewoodlibraryfriends.org>

Presidential News cont.

Born a Crime is comedian Trevor Noah's witty autobiography. He details growing up in post-apartheid South Africa as the son of an illegal interracial relationship. The way he writes about both humorous and painful aspects of his life gives the reader an appreciation for his journey to America. It interweaves his mother's fate in an amazing end that is sure to surprise all readers and is a real testament to the power of faith.

The reason I recommend this book is that it is a quick and easy read; you can break it up into the chapters (kind of like a Netflix series). It's a #1 New York Times Bestseller and might be found at a bargain price in our bookstore!

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Les Misérables by Victor Hugo

In college English, we were assigned *Les Misérables* by Victor Hugo, translated from the French. I was dreading it - 800 pages long (in paperback!), a French masterpiece and translated to boot! I love British history, but French, not so much! Not to mention the fact that I didn't know much about France, except for the fashions and food from Paris! Well, I couldn't have been more wrong! Victor Hugo can really tell a story, and I was captivated from the first page! A sweeping epic of criminal Jean Valjean, condemned for stealing a loaf of bread for his sister's starving family, pursued by police inspector Javert, the book has everything - action, redemption, love, spirituality, revolution, and a vivid picture of Paris in the 19th century. This is France's *Gone with the Wind*, and it's every bit the masterpiece it's touted to be. I challenge you to dive in; you won't be disappointed (plus, you'll learn some French history!). I'm glad I was assigned to read it, and reading it helped me when I saw the musical (twice!) and, of course, the movie too!

Atomic Habits by James Clear

The author shares a compelling personal experience from his youth to emphasize the benefits of adopting atomic habits. He also provides great specific examples from world-class organizations to support his message. One notable instance is the British bicycling team in the early 2000s, who achieved trophies by implementing a one percent-per-day increase in performance.

Another habit that resonated with me is one often utilized by successful people I know. Mr. Clear describes workers on a train platform pointing out and verbalizing safe conditions. When an unsafe condition arises, such as a child's mother getting an arm stuck in a train door while trying to enter the car to join her daughter, the safety workers are prompted to action. They hold the train, open the door, and quickly facilitate the safe departure of the train from the station with the mother and daughter aboard.

I liked this book because it can serve as a self-help guide or add depth and color to observations of the world around us.





Current Resident or

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Lakewood, CA 90712

Friends of the
Lakewood
Libraries



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