FRIENDS OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH LIBRARY

The latest news, events and announcements from the FOTL



Children and their parents love attending the Oak View Library Chess Club.

OAK VIEW'S CHESS CHAMPS

By Ray Rydell

It is 2 o'clock on a summer Saturday afternoon. Two teenage girls enter the Oak View Library with their mother. The girls grab tubes from the plastic storage box and proceed to place 12 chessboards on the six tables in the activity area of the library. Their mother sits on the sidelines absorbed in her tablet.

From 2:15 on, other children and teens drift into the area. As they enter, Aaron Herrera, Department Service Aide, calls out to each one to warm up with a puzzle, which is a snapshot of a chess game in progress. The puzzle is: if the correct move is made, checkmate can be achieved in one move. What is that move?

At 2:30 Giancarlo Dimas enters carrying two trophies. There will be a photo session today and Giancarlo with his trophies will be the subject. He participated in a chess tournament in Garden Grove in 2023 and took second place. After honing his game at the Oak View Library Chess Club, Giancarlo returned to the chess tournament in 2024 and won first place.

An eight-year-old girl, Cindy Lindenberg, accompanied by her father and two grandparents, approach Aaron and ask if she could participate in the chess club. She knows how the pieces move and has played a few games with her father. Aaron agrees to play a game with her to assess her capabilities. Her father sits on the sidelines working with his phone. *Cont. on p. 6*

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EMBRACING LITERACY Celebrating 40 Years of Service at HBPL



From left: Mary, a student, meets with volunteer tutor Laura.

Have you ever noticed the Literacy Center office on the bottom level of Central Library where the coffee bar is located? Maybe you're wondering what they do in there. If you guessed teach people how to read and write, you'd be right; however that's not all that they do. The Literacy Center is a nonprofit organization, formally called Literacy Volunteers HBPL, which was founded in 1984. It is funded by three sources: the City of Huntington Beach, the California Library and Literacy Services, and their own fundraising. Their main mission is to help adults, 18 and over, learn to read and write. Volunteers work one-on-one with students until the student's goal is met.

Goals of students can vary. Perhaps the student wants to read the newspaper or a book, help their child with homework, or improve their job skills. Volunteers help the students by being trained by the Center via a 13hour program with various modules. This training is done partially online and also in person. Volunteers do not need any previous experience such as being a teacher since all training is provided. Volunteers meet with students once or twice a week for two hours using materials provided by the center, either at the center or another mutually agreed upon public location. Hours are flexible and tutors are matched with students who have the same time schedule. There are currently 100 volunteers!

One such volunteer in Laura. She is retired, having formerly worked in the real estate industry. Laura has volunteered for 2 1/2 years, teaching 3 students. One student has an English speaking background, while another is a foreigner, and the third is a disabled student. Generally she has worked with them once or twice a week, depending on what fits best for her students' schedule. When Laura retired, she wanted to do something that helped the community.

Additional services provided by the Literacy Center include helping to prepare for the GED or HISET exam, as well as provide information on getting a high school degree via online coursework. Preparation for obtaining U.S. citizenship is also provided, as well as computer skills.

If you would like to help change someone's life, contact the Literacy Center. They have a waiting list of over 125 students hoping to get matched with a tutor. Contact: literacy@surfcity-hb.org; 714-375-5102, weekdays 9 am- 5 pm, Saturdays 9 am- noon.

PETITION



Signatures Are Still Needed!

The petition drive for the two citizen-led library ballot initiatives is underway this fall, and it's critical to spread the word that signatures are still needed. Both petitions give Huntington Beach voters a voice in how their taxpayer money is spent on our award-winning public library. One petition gives voters a say in whether a 21-member board of political appointees

has final and non-appealable authority to determine which books are acquired by our library for those under 18. The other petition gives voters a say in whether they want a for-profit corporation managing the public library's book collection, staffing, and programming. For more information on where to sign, visit: https://fotlhb.com/petitions.

AUTHOR EVENT

Author Luncheon

Tuesday, October 22 - 12:00pm

Ellen Byron

Welcome to the Bon Veeevil Festival of Fear! Prepare for the spookiest night of your life.

It's Halloween in New Orleans, and the staff of Bon Vee Culinary House Museum is setting up a fantastic haunted house tour for their visitors. But when flashy movie star Blaine Taggart and his entourage move into the mansion next door, gift shop proprietor Ricki James-Diaz gets a fright of her own.

While Ricki is excited about the potential business the tours will bring to her vintage cookbook shop, she's less thrilled by former friend Blaine's arrival in town. Then Bon Vee's prop tomb becomes a real tomb for Blaine's nasty assistant, and suddenly everyone at Bon Vee is a murder suspect. There isn't a ghost of a chance one of them committed the crime, but with NOPD busy tackling the mischief and mayhem generated by the spooky holiday, it falls on Ricki and her friends to catch the killer.

As the Big Easy gears up for the Big Scary, it seems everyone has skeletons in their closets. Can Ricki reveal the shadowy killer before someone else becomes part of the Halloween horror show?







Rachel Howzell Hall

A writer's search for her missing friend becomes a real-life thriller in a twisting novel of suspense by the New York Times bestselling author of These Toxic Things.

Bailey Meadows has just moved into the remote Topanga Canyon home of thriller author Jack Beckham. As his writer-in-residence, she's supposed to help him once again reach the bestseller list. But she's not there to write a thriller—she's there to find Sam Morris, a community leader dedicated to finding missing people, who has disappeared in the canyon surrounding Beckham's property.



The missing woman was last seen in the drought-stricken forest known for wildfires and mountain lions. Each new day, Bailey learns just how dangerous these canyons are—for the other women who have also gone missing here…and for her. Could these missing women be linked to strange events that occurred decades ago at the Beckham estate?

As fire season in the canyons approaches, Bailey must race to unravel the truth from fiction before she becomes the next woman lost in the forest.

Rachel Howzell Hall has crafted her own genre of slow-boiling, powerfully emotional thrillers.— Lee Goldberg, bestselling author of the Eve Ronin series

\$30.00 FOTL Members \$40.00 Non-Members

Register at fotlhb.com/programs

THE GIFT THAT KEEPS GIVING



The Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library recently presented its annual donation of \$250,000 to the Huntington Beach Public Library. Because of the dedication and support of Friends volunteers, members, and library patrons, FOTL is able to raise funds through its community events and fundraisers, membership donations, Used Book Store, and the Friends Gift Shop. This sizable contribution is used to purchase books and materials for HPBL.

HBPL AWARDED BEST STORYTIME IN OC FOR 3RD CONSECUTIVE YEAR!

September, OC Parenting In Magazine awarded Huntington Beach Public Library the esteemed honor of best storytime in Orange County for the third consecutive year. This recognition was based on votes from readers of the local magazine for parents of young children. The long lines waiting to file into Storvtime each week are a testament to the hard work of our Storytellers. Congratulations, to each Storyteller for making this such a popular program for the community!



HBPL Storytime Storytellers proudly hold a banner identifying our public library as the recipient of Best Storytime in Orange County for 2024.

VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT Lauren West

Lauren West, a hard-working FOTL volunteer, moved to Huntington Beach when she was nearly four years old. Her parents met in Scotland, and she was born in Dumbarton. After studying at Golden West College, she finished her English BA at UC Berkeley. As a student she was able to study abroad and visited the place where her parents had met in Scotland. Her first job was at an advertising agency where she worked as a copywriter, but eventually she went back to school to obtain a Masters of Library and Information Science at San Jose State University, which she completed last year. "Whether I work in a public or academic library or library-related institution, I hope to have the opportunity to help people of all ages access accurate and helpful information," says Lauren.



Lauren grew up going to HBPL with her parents from when she was very young. "I remember going to storytimes and sitting in the Children's Theater and going to the outside stage during the summer reading program. We did not always have a lot of money growing up, but the library opened up many opportunities for fun and learning. From the time I was able to get a library card, I would borrow as many books as I was allowed to, and this transferred even to my teen years, where my brothers and I would all scooter to Central Library to find the next book in many popular series...it never left my attention that the library is one of the last real third spaces in America. The third space describes the concept of how we, as a people, need a place outside of work/school or home to gather and have community. For many, the library is the third space."

Last March, Lauren started volunteering at HBPL as a computer coach. She also became involved with ProtectHB and FOTL in their outreach efforts against censorship and outsourcing at HBPL. "I was actually in the United Kingdom with a friend, celebrating graduating from our MLIS program, when I read the news that the City Council had voted to control what books were allowed in the library. I can remember being on a train and crying about it, feeling defeated that I wasn't home to have gotten involved."

As a computer coach, Lauren has seen how people come to the library to have access to a computer for a variety of purposes, such as filling out forms, government documents, renewing healthcare, paying bills, applying for unemployment and jobs. "I appreciate all the ways you can use digital resources through the library--ebooks, audiobooks, and even streaming. The library is so much more than just books, though there are those too!"



VOLUNTEERS RAISE MONEY FOR HBPL

During the city's annual Civil War Days over Labor Day weekend at Central Park, FOTL volunteers from Used Books sold about \$1,150 in used history books. Each year, volunteers in Used Books sort and set aside history books for this purpose. The funds raised help support our public library. Naturally, books on the Civil War sell out fast!

Pictured here (from left) are FOTL volunteers Diane Brown and Debbie Zisch.



Aaron Herrera, Department Service Aide, coaches young chess players at Oak View Library.

Giancarlo Dimas

Aside from the newcomer, the youngest player this day is nine-year-old, Ean Romero. He is playing 17-yearold Rafael Pena. There is a dramatic difference in their games. Ean plays quickly and aggressively while Rafael plays a more conventional game, contemplating each move and analyzing the opponent's move.

The Oak View Library Chess Club does not play in silence. It is more like a soccer match. When it becomes apparent that Giancarlo and Alexander are in a close match, some of the players abandon their game to kibitz. The kibitzers get a little louder and Aaron calls for a volunteer to quiet the noise.

As the afternoon winds down, the players start to roll up the boards and return them to the tubes until next week. One member turns on the computer and starts to play an online match. Aaron cautions no computer until after the club is over at 4:30. Although Aaron has put books on chess strategy and history out on a nearby table, the members prefer to go online and get playing experience against live players. It's always a fun Saturday afternoon!

Holiday Shopping AT THE FRIENDS GIFT SHOP

The holidays will be here before you know it! If you're looking for spooky Halloween decorations or the perfect holiday gift, come by the Friends Gift Shop. We have many unique items – especially jewelry, purses, and home décor, plus a variety of toys, games, puppets and stocking stuffers for all ages. You can always check out our website for ideas: <u>fotlhb.com/friends-gift-shop</u>. If you have not been by lately, we invite you back!

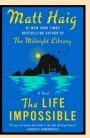
100% volunteer operated, all proceeds go to support the library. FOTL and FOTCL members receive a 10% discount on all regularly priced items.



FRIENDS GIFT SHOP HOURS

Monday Tuesday -Saturday Sunday 1:30pm - 4:30pm 10:30am - 4:30pm 12:30pm - 4:30pm





The Life Impossible by Matt Haig

Filled with wonder and wild adventure, this is a story of hope and the life-changing power of a new beginning.

Hall of Mirrors

by John Copenhaver When a popular mystery novelist dies suspiciously, his writing partner must untangle the author's connection to a serial killer in 1950s McCarthy-era Washington, DC.





First Gen

by Alejandra Campoverdi Trailblazing women's health advocate and former Obama White House aide Alejandra Campoverdi's unflinching memoir discusses her life as a first-generation Mexican American woman.

WASSAIL PARTY

Friday, December 6 6:00pm Central Library Lower Level - Room C/D

Mark your calendars! We warmly invite all members to our festive annual Wassail Party! Come and revel in an evening filled with delectable food, refreshing drinks, captivating live entertainment, and the company of friends. It's an occasion not to be missed, and we look forward to welcoming you!







THAT LIBRARIAN

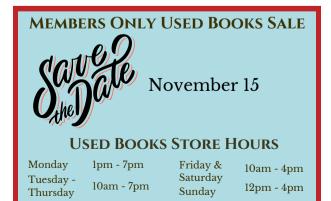
By Amanda Jones

REVIEWED BY SUE BREWSAUGH

Amanda Jones spoke before her community's public library board in July 2022. Afterward, she was vilified in social media. She has written an account of her situation and why she filed a defamation lawsuit against the people who hurled epitaphs such as "groomer" and "pedophile" against her. It includes the text of the speech she made - about the purpose of a public library and why diverse books are needed to represent the entire community. She was accused of promoting anal sex to her middle school students. All because she said that public libraries should serve their entire communities.

This book is worth your time to read. It is excellent on many levels: her situation and why she decided to fight back; a sad description of our current polarized society; and, she's an engaging author. I especially enjoyed the peek into living in a small town where you can't go out without meeting someone you know. Something a lifetime in Orange and LA counties has made totally foreign.

Her constant theme was the requirement to be a strong example and role-model for her students. She succeeded admirably. While occasionally uneven (her soul-searching and attempts to force herself to forgive her attackers), her book is a treasure. Just one word of warning – read it with a box of tissues handy. You'll need them.



AROUND THE LIBRARY

Art on Main Street

Main Street Library/Art Center Sat., Oct. 12th 11 a.m. and 1 p.m.



Join us at the Main Street Branch Library and Huntington Beach Art Center for a brand new collaborative program series: Art on Main Street! In this exciting partnership program, children ages 4-10 will learn about the world of art through books and hands-on projects at the HB Art Center. The program will begin at the Main Street Branch Library with an elementary-age storytime and, followed by a docentled tour of the HB Art Center's newest exhibit. Two sessions are offered.



Pumpkin Painting

Central Library Talbert Room Tues., Oct. 15, 6:30 pm

Get in the spooky season mood with a Pumpkin Painting night! Bring your own pumpkin; we will provide painting and decorating supplies and spooky ambiance. We will have mini foam pumpkins to paint if you are unable to bring your own pumpkin. Registration is recommended.

Lunch 'N Learn Helen Murphy Branch Library Thurs., Oct. 17th 12:00 - 1:00 pm

Always wanted to try out your dramatic side? Let's do a table read of an American Classic, "Spoon River." Everyone will have a chance to try out different characters that make up a small midwestern town. No preparation needed! Deserts & drinks provided.

Sip and Read

Shipley Nature Center Wed., Oct. 23rd 5:00 pm



5:00 pm Come to a Halloween-inspired afternoon of tea and outdoor reading. Please bring a blanket and dress warmly. Reading in nature is both therapeutic and fun. Shipley Nature Center is located at 17851 Golden West St., HB, CA 92647.

Bingo Night

Oak View Library Mon., Oct. 28th 6:30 pm



Attend a fun family evening of BINGO! Win prizes, meet new friends, and learn about fun library programs and services.

Bibliotherapy Tea Central Library Sunday, Nov. 3rd 2:00 - 3:30 pm

Unwind at Bibliotherapy Tea, an afternoon of creative activities, writing, relaxation, books and, of course, tea! Registration is required.

Friendsgiving Central Library Wed., Nov. 20th 6:00 - 8:00 pm



Enjoy a special night of Friendsgiving! Make friends, make crafts, play games, and enjoy the holiday together. This event is for adults 18 and over only. Registration is required.

Register for Library Programs & Events at: <u>https://hbpl.libcal.com</u>

2024 In-N-Out Cover to Cover Reading Program



Children ages 4 to 12 can earn up to 3 free burgers from In-N-Out during this popular annual reading program! Pick up a reading log from any HBPL branch or enter your reading log on your Beanstack account at hbpl.beanstack.org. Don't have a Beanstack account? We can help with that at the Children's Desk. Read 15 books or 900 minutes between October 5 and November 16 and follow the reading log instructions to redeem your log for burger certificates. In-N-Out rewards can be picked up at any HBPL branch between October 5th - November 16th. Rewards will not be available after November 16th. For more information, contact the Children's desk during normal business hours at (714) 375-5107.

BOOK CLUBS

Central Book Club



Oct. 8th, Nov. 12th, Dec. 3rd

This first Tuesday of the month evening book club now meets in person in the B Room. Oct.'s book is *Hello Beautiful* by Ann Napolitano.

Virtual Book Club Nov. 19th

Join our Virtual Book Club, a branch-off of our Central Book Club that meets online every other month on the third Tuesday at 7pm!

Silent Book Club

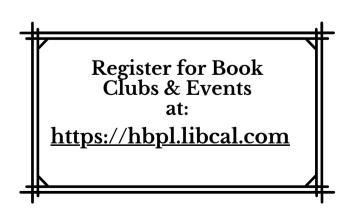
Central Library Main Street

If you enjoy reading with other book lovers and chatting about your current and favorite reads, join us the first Friday of each month at Central Library. We'll be meeting in the afternoon from 2:00pm to 3:30pm in the Talbert Room.

Central Library: Nov. 1st and Dec. 6th

Main Street Library: Oct. 18th, Nov. 15th, and Dec. 20th

Walk-ins welcome!



Walking Audiobook Club Central Library



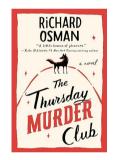
Come join our Walking Book Club at Central Library. Meet other book lovers while exercising and enjoying the outdoors. We will be walking the path inside Central Park, which is about a mile. Please register so we know to wait for you.

Afternoon sessions: Oct. 17th at 5:30 PM; Nov. 21st and Dec. 19th at 4:30 PM

Morning sessions: Oct. 18th, Nov. 15th and Dec. 13th at 9 AM.

Banning Book Club

Oct. 31st and Nov. 21st



Banning Branch Book Club meets the last Thursday of every month at 5:30 PM. October's title is *The Thursday Murder Club* by Richard Osman. Registration required at: https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/1260 3907.

Main Street Lunch Book Club



Oct. 17th, Nov. 21st, Dec. 19th

Come spend your lunch hour with us while discussing a great book. Bring your lunch and enjoy great company. We meet on the third Thursday of the month at 12 PM at Main St Library.

MESSAGE FROM FOTL PRESIDENT MARTHA ELLIOTT

Welcome Friends of the Library to Fall. Thank you for everything each of you do to support our library. There is another vital action you can take to keep our library reflecting the viewpoints in our community.

Please sign two petitions that will give Huntington Beach voters a chance to participate in deciding the future of our library. They are available to sign at Central Library. Each petition will put a question on the ballot in the Spring. The first is should we keep the 21-person politically appointed book committee that will have the final decision, with no appeal, about what materials our public library is allowed to obtain and where they are placed for access.



Currently, trained and experienced librarians select materials based on research and community needs. Parents have always had the ability to restrict what their children can check out or see by putting limits on their library card or accompanying their children to the library. The second question is should HB voters decide if any city council can enter a contract to have a for-profit company manage library operations. To make a profit, contract terms include the ability to reduce the number and quality of employees, reduce books and other materials resulting in a fraction of the collection we have now, and reducing the number of branches and/or branch hours. Our library is one of the most fiscally efficient in California, so the only way to make a profit is by these methods.

Please stop at the library and sign the petitions today. The full language of the proposal can be read on the petition.

MESSAGE FROM LIBRARY MANAGER JESSICA FRAMSON



As we embrace the crisp air of autumn, I reflect on the many accomplishments we've achieved over the summer—our busiest season of the year. The support and enthusiasm of our community continue to inspire us, and we have so much to celebrate!

We just wrapped up another successful Summer Reading Program, with 2,998 participants signing up for the reading challenge. Throughout the summer, we offered a total of 189 programs for patrons of all ages, engaging an incredible 14,979 attendees in various events. Our partnership programs with Shipley Nature Center, right across from Central, have proven popular, and we continue our collaboration with the Art Center.

A special thank you to the Friends of the Children's Library for sponsoring so many fantastic children's summer programs, and we're in awe of our teens--both in their participation and the volunteer hours they contributed, as well as our amazing teen librarian for being so creative and welcoming!

We're also thrilled to celebrate that our storytellers have been awarded Best Storytime in Orange County for the third consecutive year, as voted by the readers of OC Parenting Magazine. We are immensely proud or our staff and grateful for the support of our community.

Additionally, we are thankful to the Friends of the Library for the generous donation of \$250,000 for the 2024/2025 budget year, which will significantly enhance our book budget. Your contributions through membership dues, Gift Shop purchases, and book sales make this possible. It's heartening to see how your support directly enriches our Library and benefits our community.

With National Friends of the Library Week approaching, I want to extend my deepest gratitude to each of you. Your dedication and passion for the library makes a profound difference, and this is the perfect time to celebrate the bond we share and the impact we're making together. Thank you once again for being such an integral part of our Library family. Wishing you a wonderful fall filled with good books and cozy moments!



Thanks for joining for Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library! We look forward to seeing you around the library.

Toni Chou Chantayne Wilchewski Laura Partridge **Jamie Craver Monique** Peterson Donna Horn Jerry Horn John & Barbara Duggan Lana Holguin Tamara Colby Doreen K. Gill **Robin Edwards** Loretta Bell Paula Lucas MaryLynne LaMantia Joseph Figueroa **Kristine** Hise Gober Aamirah Mary Hoover Janice Kedzierski Thomas Montoya Whitney, Debra & Michael Thompson Charles Vandervort Maggie Ratanapratum Anh Pham Roger L. Parker James A. Thompson Francince Karuntzos **Cynthia Winters**

Andrew L. Scott Stacy Fielder Ann Martone Betty Carlson Cynthia Berger Paige Cavendish Christine Amoroso Sarah Fitzgerald Mary Stephens Jean Kersey Grace Nolan **Katherine** Jones **Beverly Reilly Pinsky Bonnie Bryant Julia Bica** Donna & Joseph Swenson Richard Wasiewicz Florence Stern **Brian Dieriex** Alice Brinkman Don Stern Kathleen Stern Fran Dereszynski Judy & Larry Elfenbein **Iudv Morris** Sharon Force Riva Apodaca Allie Aroz Peggy Aroz Lawrence Kemper Danielle, Jack, Stevie & Camron Cepek

Friends Membership Form

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Name	Phone Number	
Address	Zip Code	
Email Address	Yes. I would like to h	help the environment by
Membership Status 🗌 New 🗌 Renewal		orrespondence by email
I would like to volunteer:		
□ Friends Gift Shop □ Programs Coordination	Annual Membership Dues Seniors 55+ \$15 Sustaining \$30	Other Membership Options
Used Books Store 🗌 Newsletter Production	□ Student \$15 □ Associate \$50	□ Lifetime \$150
Events Support	🗆 Individual \$20 🔲 Family \$25	Benefactor \$500
Mail completed form with cash or check or drop o Friends of the Library 7111 Talbert Ave. Huntington		

To join by credit card visit www.fotlhb.com/membership



Huntington Beach, CA 92648

FRIENDS OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH LIBRARY **Executive Board of Directors**

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Board Member Barbara Voelkel Programs Dina Chavez Mary Spafford Secretary Sue Brewsaugh Treasurer Joe Dragecivch

Vivian Catalano

Huntington Beach Library Central Library Information

Address: 7111 Talbert Avenue Huntington Beach, CA 92648 Hours: Monday 1PM - 9PM Tuesday - Thursday 9AM - 9PM Friday 9AM - 5PM Saturday 9AM - 5PM Sunday 12PM - 5PM

Website: www.hbpl.org

Public Services: (714) 842-4481 Meeting and Banquet Rooms: (714) 960-8839 Children's Library: (714) 375-5107 Friends Gift Shop: (714) 375-8429

Branch Locations and Hours

Banning 9281 Banning Ave. (714) 375-5005 Monday - Closed Friday - Saturday 9AM - 1PM Tues - Thurs 9AM - 6PM Sunday - Closed

Helen Murphy 15882 Graham St. (714) 375-5006 Monday & Wednesday 1PM - 7PM Tuesday & Thursday 9AM - 2PM Saturday & Sunday Closed Main Street 525 Main St. (714) 375-5071

Monday - Closed Friday & Saturday 9AM - 5PM Tuesday - Thursday 9AM - 6PM Sunday - Closed

Oak View 17251 Oak Lane (714) 375-5068 Monday - Friday 9AM - 9PM Saturday 9AM - 5PM Sunday- Closed