

FRIENDS OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH LIBRARY

The latest news, events and announcements from the FOTL



On the left, Central Library 50 years ago. On the right, Central Library today.

THEN AND NOW

By Carol Daus

On April 5, 1975, when Huntington Beach residents entered HBPL's brand spanking new Central Library, they were impressed by the iconic architects' Brutalist design, the sweeping fountains, lush plants and open spaces. But there was one feature they found quite perplexing. There were no books in the expansive array of bookshelves.

That's because a global economic recession occurred as the finishing touches were being made on the beautiful new Central Library. Thankfully, Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library—which had been formed several years prior to the opening of Central Library—went into high gear raising money for the city's new library. Friends' members organized book sales throughout the city, a gala fundraiser, and many other events. In a short period of time, Friends raised \$10,000 and books gradually started appearing on the shelves.

Fifty years later, Friends has never stopped raising money for our city's cultural gem. Currently, FOTL's fundraising efforts provide approximately \$250,000 yearly for the HBPL. Used book sales are still a major part of the group's success. Book lovers from throughout Orange County rave about the selection of used books available for purchase. The Friends Gift Shop, which opened the same year as the Central Library, has grown steadily over the years, and is considered one of the finest in California.

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CENTRAL LIBRARY'S 50TH ANNIVERSARY

Save the Date

Celebrating the History of the Central Library

Join us on the evening of July 12 as we commemorate the 50th Anniversary of the Huntington Beach Central Library! City Archivist Kathie Schey will share the library's remarkable history, accompanied by an exhibit of never before seen or rarely seen objects from its past. This special program will feature a fascinating talk in the Library Theater, exploring the rich history and legacy of our beloved library.

In addition to the talk, there will be a stunning display of historic artifacts, photos, and other items that capture the library's remarkable journey as the cornerstone of our community.

Don't miss this unique opportunity to celebrate the past, present, and future of the Central Library. Mark your calendars—details to follow!



Early construction of the Central Library.



The Opening Gala, 1975.



Photos from last summer's Kick-Off

SUMMER TIME... AND THE READING'S EASY

By Carol Daus

Mark your calendars for Saturday, June 21, for Huntington Beach Public Library's annual Summer Reading Kick-Off Carnival. Sponsored by the Friends of the Children's Library, this is one of Huntington Beach's most popular events for children and their families. Held from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. in front of Central Library, the carnival features games, shows, face painting, food vendors, a silent fundraising auction, and, of course, a sign-up table for the Summer Reading Program. (Carnival tickets are .50 each or 11 for \$5.00 and are sold outside on the day of the carnival.)

Last year, 2,998 participants signed up for the reading program. A total of 189 programs for patrons of all ages were held in conjunction with the Summer Reading Program. In Huntington Beach, reading doesn't fizzle out during the long summer months. Thanks to our library and its stellar programs, reading sizzles as the months get warmer!





Friday, May 16

MEMBERS ONLY USED BOOKS SALE

USED BOOKS STORE HOURS

| | | | |
|--------------------|------------|-------------------|------------|
| Monday | 1pm - 7pm | Friday & Saturday | 10am - 4pm |
| Tuesday - Thursday | 10am - 7pm | Sunday | 12pm - 4pm |



Spring Shopping at The Friends' Gift Shop

Spring is here, and the Friends Gift Shop has great gift items available for Mother's Day, Father's Day and Graduation! If you're looking for the perfect gift, we have many unique items – especially jewelry, purses, games, and home décor, plus greeting cards and educational toy for all ages. You can always check out our website for ideas: fotlhb.com/friends-gift-shop . 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 | 1:30pm - 4:30pm |
| Tuesday - Saturday | 10:30am - 4:30pm |
| Sunday | 12:30pm - 4:30pm |

A VITAL RESOURCE FOR VETERANS

By Betty Iseri

Located to the right of the reference desk on the first floor of Central Library is a helpful resource for veterans—the Veterans Resource Center. Established in December 2018 with a small grant, volunteers from the American Legion Post 133 (one of the oldest continuously serving posts in the U.S.), who are veterans themselves, staff the center. Information about federal, state, and local programs is offered to veterans on topics such as housing and education.

Volunteers staff the office weekdays for 2-hour shifts. Help to access military records to get benefit compensation, funeral benefits, widow benefits, even access to an emergency fund for financial needs, and more is available. Frank Passarelli, a veteran of the Vietnam War and a reservist, mans the center during the week and mentioned instances of helping veterans find homes, and pay bills such as cars and cell phones. He stated that many veterans are helped by the center—approximately 1,000 per year since the center opened.

Special events, too, are sponsored such as the March “National Vietnam Veterans Day”, where veterans were honored for their service. Should you know a veteran who needs some assistance with some facet of their life, the center is a good place to utilize.

Hours: Monday – Thursday 2:00 – 6:00 PM and Friday 9:00 – 1:00 PM

Contact: 714-375-5111 or HBPVetcenter@gmail.com



Frank, Veterans Resource Center Volunteer

FOTL Donates Books to Altadena Fire Victims

FOTL volunteers in the Central Library's Used Book Sale worked hard to sort and pack 400 K-8th grade books for Altadena teachers whose classrooms were impacted by the recent fire. In another recent effort, over 500 K-8th-grade books were donated to the West Orange County United Teachers Association, which distributes books to teachers in the Ocean View School District.

FOTL also routinely donates used books to the Assistance League, the Huntington Beach Senior Center, the Huntington Beach City School District, and Fountain Valley School District. Thanks to all the FOTL members and volunteers who support these community outreach programs!



Remembering Longtime Volunteer, Dolores McGuire

The Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library lost a dedicated volunteer and dear friend with the passing of Dolores McGuire in March. Dolores became a member of the Friends in 1991. During her 34 years volunteering, she was an active member of the Used Book Committee, a volunteer at the Gift Shop, and Chairperson of the Gift Shop. Dolores was President of FOTL from 2009-2012 and during that time she was also listing books for sale on Amazon and Alibris. Her laugh, sly wit, and kindness made her a delight to work with. She will be missed by the entire library community.

SEEDS FOR SPRING PLANTING!

HBPL Seed Library provides seeds to HBPL cardholders. Patrons can check out up to 10 seed packets per month to grow in their home gardens. At the end of the season, we encourage you to let a few plants go to seed and donate the seeds back to the seed library for others to use. This creates a sustainable and diverse stock of seeds for our community to use.

Most seeds provided are purchased through our library's program funding. Seeds of Change has generously donated a variety of lettuces, roots, herbs, etc. Any packet marked "Seeds of Change" on the packing label is USDA Certified Organic. Most Native California seeds are donated by Shipley Nature Center. In addition, some local native nurseries donate to our Native California collection.

Seed libraries are at all HBPL branches and are seasonally stocked.



Dungeons and Donations at Oak View

By Lauren West



Dina Chavez (left) and Martha Elliott (right) from FOTL present donation to Oak View's Department Service Aide Aaron Herrera.

D&D has come back in a major way, both in today's culture with roleplaying podcasts, viral videos, and big-budget movies, and even in our libraries. Our own Oak View Branch is no exception. Meeting every Saturday, the Teen D&D club has become a popular staple of Oak View's weekend programming.

While technically you only need friends, different-sided dice, and imagination to play, there are plenty of guides to help the game master lead the players to victory.

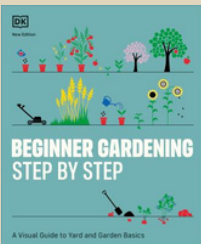
This year, the Friends of the Library was able to contribute to their weekly adventure by gifting them two 2024 D&D Player Handbooks, two 2024 Dungeon Master Guides, and two 2024 Monster Manuals, helping the club level up in a major way.

Do you know any teens 13-18 who would like to start playing? No experience is required! Space is limited so players must register and be willing to commit to a weekly campaign. All necessary materials will be provided - including a set of dice for each player! Register online at <https://hbpl.libcal.com/calendar/events>



Members of Oak View's Teen D&D club appreciate new resource materials.

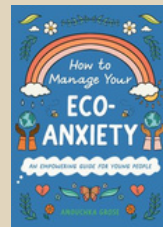
Spring Picks From the Library's Collection



Beginner Gardening, Step by Step

Anikta Gupta

Beginner Gardening step by step shows you the basics needed to get your green space under control and keep it that way.



How to Manage Your Eco-Anxiety

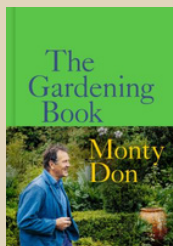
Anouchka Grose

How to Manage Your Eco-Anxiety is a timely book for teens that explores the relationship between mental health and the climate crisis . . . and supplies tools to help!

The Gardening Book

Monty Don

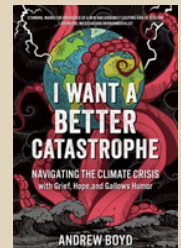
The Gardening Book gives you the basics to grow over 100 popular flowers, foods, shrubs, houseplants and more—each one has a clear, concise, format: what you need, timing, method, and step-by-step photos, all on one spread.



I Want A Better Catastrophe

Andrew Boyd

Boyd steers readers through their climate angst as he walks his own. He finds answers that will surprise, inspire, and maybe even make you laugh in this insightful and irreverent guide for achieving a "better catastrophe."



VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

Elaine Keely

BY MIKE SMITH



Elaine Keeley was born in Berkeley, California, to Ralph and Charlene Bauer. When she was three years old the family moved due to her father taking a position in Southern California. Elaine enjoyed her formative years in Southern California and applied herself to her studies in grade school and high school. During this time, she got involved in the arts and excelled in tap and jazz dance. After high school, she enrolled in the University of California at Los Angeles (UCLA), where she received a degree in Theater Arts.

It was around this time that she developed an itch for public service from her parents. Her father, Ralph, became active in local community organizations and was a very hands-on City Councilman and Mayor of Huntington Beach for several years. Her mother, Charlene, was very active in the local community and helped with the opening of the Central Library 50 years ago and founded the Friends of the Library. So, with this pedigree it was just natural for Elaine to obtain her teaching credential at UCLA and become a public-school teacher. She excelled as an elementary teacher and eventually was promoted to principal at two different schools.

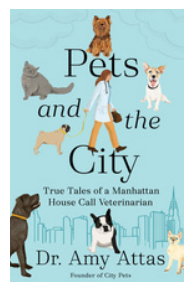
Along her route through the education profession, she obtained a Doctorate from the University of Southern California in Education Administration. She also wanted to give back to the community through her interest in the arts and became a member of the Allied Arts Board, which assisted local youth in their pursuit of the arts at the community level. Her last years in education were at the administrator level and she retired as the Director of the Merced City School District.

As a retired educator, Elaine still had a yen for public service. During the last year, Elaine was appointed to the Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library Board, which gives her the ability to engage in local library projects.

Elaine is a long-time resident of Huntington Beach, and a wife and mom of two children. Her son is an accomplished astrophysicist at UC Merced and her daughter continued in her footsteps as a teacher of dance in the APA program at Huntington Beach High School. Elaine is also a grandmother to a beautiful 3-year-old granddaughter.

book BUZZ

BOOK REVIEWS BY FOTL MEMBERS



PETS AND THE CITY

by Dr. Amy Attas

REVIEWED BY BETTY ISERI

This is a fun book about Dr. Amy Attas, a house call veterinarian in Manhattan for over 30 years. Her practice resembles the television show, "All Creatures Great and Small," except that most of the patients are cats and dogs. We hear about her visits and situations, clients who are sometimes famous but also those who are not. Cher, Elton John, and Steve Martin are all clients whose pets Dr. Attas has treated, and Joan Rivers was one of the doctor's biggest supporters.

After going to veterinary school, Dr. Attas began working at a private animal hospital in a fancy area in Manhattan where the rich and powerful lived. Through working at this hospital, she developed a clientele that depended on her to treat their pets, which she did after opening her own private practice. Putting ads in local newspapers and magazines, her biggest bullhorn was Joan Rivers, whose dog, Spike, Dr. Attas had treated many times and with great success.

Treating an aggressive rottweiler owned by a real estate mogul, getting bitten by a cat, or alternatively taking care of a wonderful labrador retriever who devoted her life to serving her master with multiple sclerosis are all things that Dr. Attas has done in the course of her work.

If you'd like an easy-to-read, hard-to-put-down book, check out *Pets and the City*.



AROUND THE LIBRARY

Monday Movie Night

Central Library
Talbert Room
Mon., May 12, 6:00pm



Join us for a Monday Night Movie! We'll be watching *Pride & Prejudice* (2005), based on the book by Jane Austen. Popcorn and light refreshments will be served. All ages and families are welcome. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is recommended.

★★★★★ Veterans Resources Night

Central Library
Talbert Room
Tuesdays, May 13th, June 10th

Join us to learn more about resources available to veterans. Topics rotate monthly. The Veterans Resources Center Night will be from 6-7:30pm at Central Library in the Talbert Room.

Lunch n Learn How Does Your Garden Grow?

Murphy Branch Library
Thursday, May 22 12:00-1:00pm

Bring a bag lunch and join us as we share gardening experiences. Drinks, and dessert will be provided. Registration is required.

Sip and Read at Shipley Nature Center

Shipley Nature Center
Wednesdays April 30th and
June 25th, 5-6pm



Reading in nature is both therapeutic and fun. Join us for an hour of relaxing at Shipley Nature Center at 17851 Golden West St. Tea will be served. Please note there is no food allowed in the nature center.

Bingo Night

Oak View Library
Mondays April 28th, June 23rd
6:30 pm



Join us for a fun family evening of BINGO! Win prizes, meet new friends, and learn about other fun library programs and services!

Whimsical Gardens

Main Street Library
May 17th, & June 21st



Join us as we venture into the world of gardening and garden crafts. Each month we will learn about gardening and make something "Whimsical" for our gardens. We can't wait to grow something amazing with you! Registration is Required.

Crafter's Corner

Oak View Branch
Mondays May 19th, June 16th



Join us on the third Monday of each month at 6 pm for an enjoyable and easy craft! Materials will be supplied. Register online.

Table Top Games

Central Library
Talbert Room
Fri., April 25th, 3-5pm

Calling all Creatures and Planeswalkers, play Magic: The Gathering at HBPL! In this new series of monthly tabletop games, you will learn the basics of a featured game. We will provide the supplies. Most importantly, you'll get to play against other participants. No prior knowledge of Magic: The Gathering (MTG) is required. Players of all ages are welcome!

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

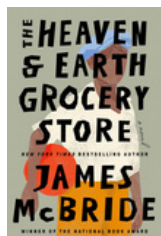


BOOK CLUBS

Central Book Club

Tues May 6th, June 3rd, 7pm

This first Tuesday of the month evening book club now meets in person in the B Room. May's book is *The Heaven & Earth Grocery Store* by James McBride.



Virtual Book Club

Tues May 20th, 7pm

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! Our next book is *The Guncle* by Steven Rowley.



Silent Book Club in Espanol

Oak View

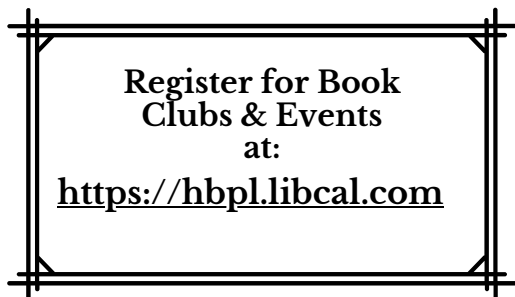
May 23rd, 10:30am

The Silent Book Club en Español welcomes anyone 18 years or older who enjoys reading alongside a good cup of coffee or tea! Bring your own book or check one out from the library to read silently then talk about our current and favorite reads.

Cookbook Club

Tuesday, May 13th, 6:30-8:00pm

If you love to cook, want to try a new recipe, learn something fun, or meet new friends--all at the same time--join our very first Cookbook Club! Cookbook Club meets in the Talbert Room. Registration is required.



Walking Audiobook Club

Central Library
May 7th and June 4th
May 15th, June 19th



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. We will meet on the first Wednesday at 11:30am and the third Thursday at 5:30pm.

Banning Book Club

April 24th, May 29th, June 26th

Banning Branch Book Club meets the last Thursday of every month at 5:30 PM. Registration required.



Main Street Lunch Book Club

May 15th, June 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 12pm at Main Street Library. April's title is *The Lost Apothecary*.

Buffet Book Club

Fridays May 2nd and June 6th

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



MESSAGE FROM FOTL PRESIDENT MARTHA ELLIOTT

Each day, I am reminded of how our library continues to be a cornerstone of our community. It's more than a building filled with books; it's a hub of learning, creativity, and connection that enriches lives in countless ways.

Spring is in the air, bringing with it a sense of renewal and fresh beginnings. It's the perfect time to embrace the vibrant energy of the season, explore new ideas, and cultivate curiosity.

Our library is here to help you do just that, with an array of resources, events, and opportunities to inspire you during this delightful time of year. From sunny afternoons spent with a good book to exciting programs designed to engage the entire family, let's make this spring a season to remember.

Behind the scenes, our talented and dedicated librarians are the true backbone of our library. Their expertise and passion for service go above and beyond in helping visitors find the resources they need, navigate technology, and create meaningful learning experiences. If you haven't had the chance to chat with one of our librarians recently, I encourage you to do so—they're a treasure trove of knowledge and enthusiasm!

This year is particularly special as we celebrate the 50th anniversary of our Central Library. For half a century, this iconic institution has been at the heart of our community, offering countless memories and opportunities for growth and discovery. Join us in honoring its legacy through a series of events and activities planned throughout the year. It's a milestone worth celebrating together!

On behalf of the Friends of the Library, I want to thank you for your continued support. Together, we are ensuring that our library remains a vibrant resource for generations to come.



LIBRARY BALLOT MEASURES

City Holds Special Election June 10 Involving HBPL



The City of Huntington Beach has scheduled a special election on June 10 to determine how Huntington Beach Public Library will be operated going forward. The Measures—A and B—were introduced following a grassroots effort where thousands of signatures were collected to oppose initiatives to control library book selections and privatize management of the public library.

Mail-in ballots will be distributed in mid-May and more information will be contained in the voter materials.

MAKERSPACE Open House



No registration required; Walk-ins are welcome

Every Third Saturday



12 Noon to 1 PM

Take a tour of the Makerspace and see what you can create!

This monthly informational event is for curious people who want to explore the DIY possibilities in the Makerspace. No registration is required, walk-ins are welcome!

Open Houses are held every third
Saturday from 12 Noon to 1pm

Welcome

NEW MEMBERS

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

| | | | | |
|---------------------------|------------------------------|-----------------------|-------------------|-------------------|
| Melanie Moritz | Leticia Kwok | Diane Eastman | Connie Courtney | Pam Kamps |
| Anja Orbach | <i>Barbara Creighton (L)</i> | Leslie Rudolph | Patricia Scarfone | Susan Goudge |
| Ivonide Blount | Lee Fink | Lynn Reed | Margie Lewis | Dave Gibbs Family |
| <i>James D Andrew (L)</i> | Nancy Schneider | Randie Shapiro | Anna Son | Byron Trexler |
| Paula A. Schaefer | Patricia Pashich | Karen McKinley | Margaret Miller | Patty & John King |
| Kathryn Raskin | Kirsten Blowers | Brian & Aaron Dew | Lynette H. Rausch | Milton Vaught |
| Aleeki Jones Vargas | Stacy Thompson | Brian Crouse | Patricia Sterling | Jeff Crawford |
| Linda Scholl | <i>Linda Newman (L)</i> | Sars Chandler | Barbara Mason | Yu Sian Tan |
| Rosalind Holly | Amr Dean Aldajani | Breanna Afzal | Mary Crawford | Justin Craft |
| Karen Johnson | Patricia Takamine | Sydney Somon | Judy Garfield | Marlene DeMeo |
| Isis Tello | Alexandria Walton | Natalie Zifcak | Emma Templin | Natalie Fazio |
| Dr. Melvyn Sterling | Julia Walton | <i>(L) = Lifetime</i> | | |

New Friends are always Welcome!

As we mark the 50th anniversary of our beloved Central Library, the Friends of the Huntington Beach Public Library remain dedicated to preserving and supporting this treasured community institution.

If you'd like to join us in making a difference, visit www.fotlhb.com. We are always welcoming new Friends to help keep our library thriving for generations to come.

FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP FORM

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Name _____ Phone Number _____
Address _____ Zip Code _____
Email Address _____
Membership Status ☐ New ☐ Renewal Date: _____ ☐ Yes, I would like to help the environment by receiving all FOTL correspondence by email

I would like to volunteer:

- ☐ Friends Gift Shop ☐ Programs Coordination
☐ Used Books Store ☐ Newsletter
☐ Events Support

| Annual Membership Dues | | Other Membership Options |
|---|--|---|
| <input type="checkbox"/> Seniors 55+ \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Sustaining \$30 | <input type="checkbox"/> Lifetime \$150 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Student \$15 | <input type="checkbox"/> Associate \$50 | <input type="checkbox"/> Benefactor \$500 |
| <input type="checkbox"/> Individual \$20 | <input type="checkbox"/> Family \$25 | |

Mail completed form with cash or check or drop off at Friends Gift Shop at the Central Library
Friends of the Library 7111 Talbert Ave. Huntington Beach, CA 92648
To join by credit card visit www.fotlhb.com/membership



7111 Talbert Avenue
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

NON-PROFIT ORG.
U.S. POSTAGE PAID
Huntington Beach, CA
Permit No. 209

FRIENDS OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH LIBRARY

Executive Board of Directors

| | |
|--------------|----------------------|
| Board Chair | Dina Chavez |
| Board Member | Sue Brewsaugh |
| Board Member | Carol Daus |
| Board Member | Martha Elliott |
| Board Member | Elaine Keeley |
| Board Member | Paula A. Schaefer |
| Board Member | Kathie Schey |
| Board Member | Barbara Voelkel |

Committee Chairs

| | |
|-------------------|-------------------|
| Programs | Dina Chavez |
| Membership | Mary Spafford |
| Used Books Store | Valerie DeMartino |
| Friends Gift Shop | Barbara Voelkel |
| Secretary | Sue Brewsaugh |
| Treasurer | Joe Dragecivch |
| Newsletter | Carol Daus |
| Hospitality | Vivian Catalano |
| FOTCL Liasion | Sheila Plotkin |

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 | Friday 9AM - 2PM |
| 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 | Sunday- Closed |
| Saturday 9AM - 5PM | |