

# FRIENDS OF THE HUNTINGTON BEACH LIBRARY

*The latest news, events and announcements from the FOTL*



## Ladybug Day

By Ray Rydell

It is Ladybug Day at the Central Library and there is a line of strollers, mothers, and little ones lined up outside the story telling theater, waiting for the eleven o'clock adventure. The ten o'clock wave has transitioned to the Secret Garden.

This is a school day so the audience will be limited to preschoolers and their escorts. When the doors open there is an optional small door for little ones, and it gets enthusiastic use.

There is total chaos, 50 mothers, many with baby carriers hanging from their necks, some with babies wrapped in blankets. There are six fathers, a couple of grandmothers, and one grandfather. Did I mention it is total chaos?

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# Ladybug Day

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Miss Kari walks in with a colorful top emblazoned with red and black ladybugs. It does not get quiet. Miss Kari starts her presentation with recognition of colors and shapes, finally a few voices can be heard in response. There are some little ones in the audience who know their colors and shapes and are happy to participate. Now it is still chaos but with a little order.

After a song, to the tune of "Little Tea Pot," Miss Kari reads two books about ladybugs, and it is time to adjourn to the Secret Garden. The Secret Garden is located behind the library, so the mothers and caretakers load up the strollers and, taking the little ones by hand, trek back to the Secret Garden.

At the Secret Garden, they are met by a group handing out bowls, plates, or Tupperware, anything that can hold some wood chips and baby ladybugs. The ladybugs are exceedingly small and still all black. The little ones, 1 to 4 years old, are very curious and poke at the contents of their containers to uncover the ladybugs.

With unbelievable patience, they coax the ladybugs onto their fingers. They examine them like a scientist, checking out a brand-new species. They then crouch down close to the blades of long grass or shrubs where they want to deposit their new friend. The mothers, dads, grandmothers, grandfathers, or caregivers are right there with them.

The little ones, still crouched down close to the action, watch to make sure their ladybugs get settled in their new homes. From the attention they display, you might get the feeling that they will be back to see the adult colorful version of their new friend, the ladybug.

*The Central Library's award-winning Story Time is held on Tuesdays and Thursdays at 10 and 11 AM (Toddlers-Tuesdays; Preschoolers-Thursday.)*



## Summer Reading Challenge

June 24 - August 13

at all HBPL locations! Register in person at any branch, or online at [hbpl.beanstack.com](http://hbpl.beanstack.com).

HBPL challenges adults ages 18+ to spend time reading this summer! Complete the challenge by reading five books before August 13, and you'll earn raffle entries for a City Beach Parking Pass - valued at \$150! To get started, register online or in-person at any HBPL location. When you register, you'll get a Summer Reading reusable book tote as a bonus - the perfect bag to carry all of your summer books! All prizes available while supplies last,

## Welcome New Members

Jamieson Hopkins  
Dean Wong  
Chrysteen Braun  
Kathy Miller  
Bonnie Ross  
Carol Reagan-Weepie  
Pat Thiessen  
Marlz Klezmer  
Josette Schwartz  
Constance Van Luit  
Nancy DeVries  
Nancy Sink  
Gonzalo Bartolome  
Christine Campbell

Thomas G. Moore  
(Benefactor)  
Phyllis Steinberg  
Anne Westrup  
Judy Fickling  
Mimi Lozano Holtzman  
Madeleine Said  
Sandra Hans  
Carolyn Austin

Lily Huang  
Sabrina LaRocca  
Lea Lowe  
Carol Shi  
Frances Shelby  
Myra Farrell  
Carol Abercrombie  
Vides Family  
Armida Gordon

Diane West  
Janet Johnson  
Stacy Cohen  
Gloria Albeg  
Lee Marie Sanchez  
Maria Kalina  
Riva Apodaca  
Cesia Suchite  
Pat Dallas  
Karen Funk  
Shirley Nixon  
Diane Siegfried  
Molly Hudak  
Nina Guzman  
Anna Carlson

# SUMMER PICKS



*From the Library's Collection*

## Lady Tan's Circle of Women

by Lisa See

Tan Yunxian learns the pillars of Chinese medicine from her grandmother but is sent into an arranged marriage and pressured by her mother-in-law. (Author Lisa See will be discussing this book at the Author Talk on July 16.)



*Children explore new books at the Summer Reading Carnival.*

# SUMMER READERS

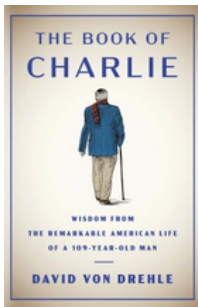
On Saturday, June 24, an outpouring of local children and their parents attended the Summer Reading Carnival at the Central Library. In what appears to be record-breaking for the annual event, over 1,000 readers signed up to participate in the Summer Reading Program.

The Carnival featured games, crafts, music, food, prizes, and a host of entertainers. Teenagers from a variety of civic groups volunteered to help the program run smoothly. The Summer Reading Program runs through August 13th.

## The Book of Charlie

by David Von Drehle

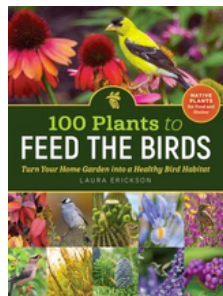
The Washington Post columnist shares stories and wisdom he learned from a neighbor who was more than a century old.



## 100 Plants to Feed the Birds

by Laura Erickson

Details on planning a bird-friendly garden as well as in-depth profiles of 100 plants, including herbaceous plants, trees, grasses, shrubs, and vines, that will provide food and shelter for birds throughout the entire year.



# Summer Shopping! AT THE FRIENDS GIFT SHOP

Have you visited the Friends Gift Shop lately? Summer is here, and now is the time to see what's new! We offer a wide variety of merchandise such as unique gifts, coastal decor for your home and garden, outdoor toys for children, other toys that spark imagination and creativity (including amazing puppets), purses, wallets, jewelry, and greeting cards for every occasion. You can always check out our website for ideas: [fotlhb.com/friends-gift-shop](http://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

# VOLUNTEER SPOTLIGHT

## Martha Elliott

BY RAY RYDELL



Libraries have been a part of my life since I checked out my first book in third grade, confessed Martha Elliott, the incoming president of the Friends of the Library.

Growing up in the Midwest, Martha's first public library was the Mount Washington Public Library. Although the building

was a bit intimidating to a third grader, she was allowed to take out up to five books at a time and that began her love of the library.

After living in Ohio and Tennessee where she continued to appreciate the value and enjoy the public libraries, Martha eventually moved to Long Island, New York. She was hoping for better weather and improved job opportunities. While in Long Island, she earned a BA in Accounting from SUNY. Continuing her association with libraries, Martha was elected to the Harborfields Library Board. While serving on the Board from 1986 to 1991, she served terms as President, Treasurer, and Secretary. During her tenure, she was instrumental in the construction that doubled the physical size of the library and added new technology services.

In 1991, after being disappointed in the weather in the Midwest and Long Island, she decided to try California and a new job in an emerging technology with Pac-Tel Wireless. Challenges in technology required new contractual relations with vendors and the public, so Martha went back to school and earned a Juris Doctorate. Pac-Tel became Verizon and Martha eventually retired from Verizon in 2019.

After joining FOTL in 2019, Martha served for two years as Treasurer and one year as Assistant Treasurer and will now lead the group as President.

On a more personal note, Martha has two children and four grandchildren. She is a Disney fanatic with an annual pass for the last 10 years. A highlight of her Disney experience was a trip to visit Shanghai Disneyland in 2017. She also enjoys musical theater, supports an animal rescue organization, and a children's organization with donations.

She could be more active with all her skills, but she must have time to read!

# Book BUZZ

## BOOK REVIEWS BY FOTL MEMBERS

### NEXT IN LINE by Jeffrey Archer

REVIEWED BY  
RAY RYDELL

Is this a true story? That is the preface page that greets the reader at the beginning of *Next in Line*.



If you like books with tangled webs, this book has them. Criminals, police, lawyers, the Royal Family, and a few private individuals, all try to outsmart one each other. This is the fifth in the William Warwick Series, and Detective Chief Inspector is about to take on the Royal Protection Unit duties, while he waits for his nemesis Michael Faulkner to come to trial for prison escape. Booth Watson, Faulkner's solicitor, believing Faulkner is dead, is making off with Faulkner's collection of art and emptying their joint bank accounts, intending to flee to the South Seas.

A terrorist's plane lands to refuel at a local airport, is apprehended by Scotland Yard, placed in the same prison with Faulkner. Princess Diana becomes involved in yet another web that could turn out disastrous for the UK and deadly for her. But Margaret Thatcher and Warwick roll out the big guns to try to counteract the terrorist plot.

Jeffrey Archer is in the House of Lords and has worked for Margaret Thatcher. He was also a friend of Princess Diana and functioned as her auctioneer on numerous occasions. So,...Is this a true story?

### MEMBERS ONLY USED BOOKS SALES

Save the Date

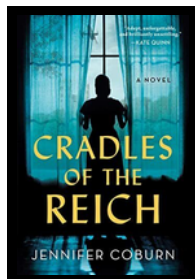
August 18  
November 17

#### USED BOOKS STORE HOURS

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

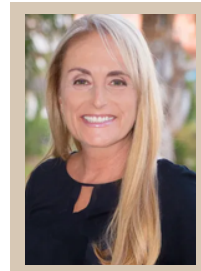
# AUTHOR LUNCHEON

## Jennifer Coburn



Jennifer Coburn is the author of *Cradles of the Reich*, a historical novel about three very different women living at a Nazi Lebensborn breeding home at the start of World War II.

She has also published a mother-daughter travel memoir, *We'll Always Have Paris*, as well as six contemporary women's novels. Additionally, Jennifer has contributed to five literary anthologies, including *A Paris All Your Own*.

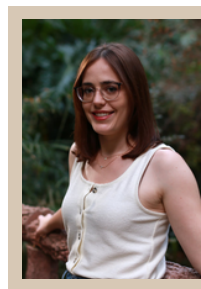


## Sarah James



For fans of *Atomic City Girls* and Marie Benedict, *The Woman With Two Shadows* is Sarah James' fascinating historical debut of one of the most closely held secrets of World War II and a woman caught up in it when she follows her missing sister to the mysterious city of Oak Ridge, Tennessee.

"A riveting tale about a town and its people that officially never existed and the secrecy behind one of the Manhattan Project's top-secret cities!"  
—Kim Michele Richardson, New York Times bestselling author of *The Bookwoman of Troublesome Creek*



**Thursday, September 21st at 12:00pm**

**Registration Begins Monday, August 21**

\$30.00 FOTL Members

\$40.00 Non-Members

*Fundraising*  
**EVENT**

FOTL Fundraiser at

**MATTER OF CRAFT**

Bottle Shop / Tap Room / Scratch Kitchen

**Thursday, August 3rd**  
**11:30am – 9:00pm**

Visit **Matter of Craft Bottle Shop / Tap Room / Scratch Kitchen** anytime on Thursday, August 3rd from 11:30am - 9:00pm and let them know you are with **Friends of the HB Library**.

20% of all sales on dine-in or take-out will benefit the FOTL and support our Libraries!

**Matter of Craft Bottle Shop / Tap Room / Scratch Kitchen**

21022 Beach Blvd. Suite 105  
Huntington Beach, CA 92648

thank you

The Friends of the Library extends a sincere thank you to the following businesses, organizations, and individuals that made generous donations to FOTL during the last quarter.

Aquarium of the Pacific  
Bowers Museum  
California Pizza Kitchen  
Islands Restaurant  
Lazy Dog Cafe  
Lucille's Smokehouse BBQ  
Red Table Restaurant  
Tony Chavez  
Inspired Financial  
Matter of Craft

# AROUND THE LIBRARY

## TRIVIA NIGHT AT MAIN STREET LIBRARY

Friday, July 14th from 5-7 PM



Come exercise your brain with Trivia Night at Main Street Library! We'll be testing your knowledge on US history, pop culture, and maybe even some specific Huntington Beach trivia. Bring your friends to make a team of your own, or join up with others to make a new team. All ages welcome, however children 13 and under must be accompanied by an adult. Registration is required. Visit <https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/10807686> to register.

## AFTERNOON TEA WORKSHOP

Wednesday, July 19th from 6:30 -7:30PM

Learn how to host your own afternoon tea. Participants will learn how to make tea sandwiches and clotted cream while enjoying an afternoon tea. Registration is required. This program will be at the Central Library in the C&D room. visit <https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/10864369> to register.



## COFFEE & CULTURE

Tuesday, August 29th from 5:30-7PM



Join us for our quarterly Coffee and Culture program at our Main Street Branch Library. This regular event will feature various historical or cultural speakers on topics related to Huntington Beach, Orange County, and Southern California. Doors open at 5:30pm, the presentation starts promptly at 6pm. Registration is required and will open on August 1st. Please visit <https://hbpl.libcal.com/event/10008601> to register.

## TINY ART CONTEST

**Tiny Art Events & Activities All Summer Long, For All Ages!**

HBPL is hosting a tiny art contest this summer, and we're inviting people of all ages to join us in creating their very own mini-masterpieces! What is tiny art? Exactly what it says: art in miniature. Making tiny art requires planning ahead, as you have limited space to create your mini masterpiece. Need supplies to create your work of miniature art? Join us at one of our Tiny Art events this summer! We'll have mini canvases, paint, paintbrushes, and all sorts of creativity aids to bring out your inner artist. Head to the library's online calendar and search "tiny art" in view upcoming events!





# BOOK CLUBS

## Central Library Book Club

Tuesday, July 11th  
Tuesday, Aug. 1st  
Tuesday, Sept. 5th

This first Tuesday of the month 7 PM book club alternates monthly between online and in person meetings. July's meeting will be on Zoom. July's title is *Klara and the Sun* by Kazuo Ishiguro. Registration is required for *both* the in-person and online Zoom meetings.

## Walking Audio Book Club

Thursday, July 20th  
Thursday, August 17th  
Thursday, September 21st

Come join our Walking Audiobook Club at Central Library! Meet other audiobook listeners and book lovers while exercising and enjoying the outdoors. We will be walking the path inside Central Park, which is about a mile. You may choose to listen to an audiobook while you walk with us, or you can join the discussion, it's up to you!

Meets in front of the library at 4:30pm every third Thursday of the month. Please register so we know to wait for you. The group will start the walk in Central Park at 4:35pm promptly.

## Yarn & Conversation Club

First & Third Wednesday of each month at  
6:00pm  
Oak View Branch Library

You're invited to meet, chat, share crafting/hobby ideas, and work on your current projects, such as knitting, crocheting, embroidery, or hand-stitching while you socialize and relax in a friendly environment at the Oak View Branch Library!

You are welcome to bring your own work or start a new project with us. All levels of skills are welcome: from beginners to advance knitters! We have limited supplies of materials. We would greatly appreciate if you could please bring your own, especially knitting needles and/or hooks.

## Main Street Book Club

Thursday, July 20  
Thursday, September 21

The Main Street Book Club meets at noon on the third Thursday of the month. Bring your lunch (or not), but be prepared to discuss *Homegoing* by Yaa Gyasi in July and *The Maid* by Nita Prose in September. (There is no meeting in August.)

## Banning Book Club

Thursday, July 27th  
Thursday, Aug. 31st  
Thursday, Sept. 28th

The Banning Book Club meets the last Thursday of each month. It starts at 5:30 PM. July's title is *The Measure* by Nikki Erlick. August's title is *Remarkably Bright Creatures* by Shelby Van Pelt. Registration is required.

## Silent Book Club

Now at Central and 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. We'll be meeting in the afternoon from 2:00pm to 3:30pm in the Talbert Room. Walk-ins welcome. Central Library: Friday, July 7th, Friday, August 4th, Friday, September 1st from 2-3:30pm in the Talbert Room. Main Street Library: Friday July 21st from 2-3:30pm.



## Literary Stitchers

Friday, July 14th  
Friday, Aug. 11th  
Friday, Sept. 8th

Knitters and needlecrafters of all ages and abilities are invited to this afternoon book club that meets on the 3rd Friday of the month at 2:00pm. Perfect for those who want to work on their favorite project while engaging in stimulating book conversations. Literary Stitchers meets in the Talbert Room at the Central Library.

Visit <https://hbpl.libguides.com/adults/bookclubs> to register for Book Clubs.

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## HB Council Votes to Vet Library Books

After six hours of public comment, most in opposition, the City Council voted 4-3 to support the agenda item of the Mayor Pro Tem seeking that books deemed "obscene" or "pornographic" by the City be restricted in ways (to be determined) from children and teens. The vote was taken at 1 a.m. after more than 150 public comments were made. In addition, more than 650 emails were received by City Council members. Two overflow rooms were packed with concerned citizens. The measure is to be followed up with "options" that will be presented to the public at the City Council Meeting on September 5th.

It is important to note that the City of Huntington Beach and HBPL have existing policies in place with a process for library patrons who would like to request a review of any item in the Library's collection. The policy states that "*The Library supports the right of all individuals to read freely. With such a diverse community and so many points of view, disagreement about the collection can arise. Patrons are asked to respect the right of others to use materials one might not personally endorse, and for parents to be responsible for the appropriateness of their children's choices. The library recognizes the right and responsibility of parents to guide their own children's library use while allowing other parents to do the same. The Library has a formal process for the review of materials. Library users may initiate the formal review of any item in the collection by completing a Library Materials Evaluation form.*"

For more information on these policies visit:

<https://www.huntingtonbeachca.gov/government/departments/library>

In more positive news, the HB City Council approved a new budget that ended up allowing the three library branches (Banning, Main Street, and Helen Murphy) to remain open. The closures had been proposed as possible cost-cutting measures, along with restricting hours at Central Library, which was also struck down.

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## Censorship

By Ray Rydell

When I started going to the Library, I went with my mother. I didn't have a library card, so I checked out books on my mother's card. When I got a card, I would always show my mother what I was planning on reading. This was not in the way of permission but because I was proud of what I was planning on reading. That went on until I reached high school. After that, I read adult fiction or nonfiction. Sometimes, we read the same books.

When I had a family, I took my children to the library and helped them pick out books that I thought they might enjoy. Now we read the same books and discuss them.

When my children started having children of their own, I was asked to take the grandchildren to the library. I didn't know many of the children's authors, a quick perusal was usually enough to see if the reading level and content was appropriate. If there were any questions, I asked the librarian for advice.

This could be considered censorship, I suppose, but I just thought it was helping shape young minds by supplying thoughtful material.

Of the nine children I introduced to the library, two have master's degrees, two have BAs, one is in military intelligence, two are general contractors and millionaires, one is a graduate culinary artist and catering manger at Bixby Ranch nominated for Leadership Long Beach, and one is a stay-at-home mom expecting twins in July.

That's what censorship can accomplish if done right. By right, I mean through guidance from a family member with an assist from the librarians.

*Ray Rydell, a concerned library patron, is a staff writer of the Friends of the Huntington Beach Library newsletter.*



## MESSAGE FROM FOTL PRESIDENT DINA CHAVEZ

Summer is finally here and it is always an exciting time at the library! With the Summer Reading Program underway and so many programs and activities there is something for everyone at our wonderful libraries. We are looking forward to seeing all of you who have registered for our sold-out author event with Lisa See and our Members Only Used Book Sale on Friday, August 18th.



I want to thank all of our amazing Friends, our steadfast volunteers and our community for your overwhelming support of our outstanding public library system. Our libraries are a treasure and part of what makes our community such a wonderful place to live. You made your voices heard by sharing your heartfelt stories, memories and passionate advocacy for our libraries. Thank you.

As I reflect on my time as President of the FOTL, my heart is full and I am so proud to be part of this remarkable organization and the HBPL family. I have learned so much from all of you, I am so grateful for your support, in awe of our volunteer efforts and amazed by what a group of dedicated individuals can accomplish. Thank you for entrusting me with this tremendous opportunity, it has been one of the greatest honors of my life.

## MESSAGE FROM LIBRARY MANAGER JESSICA FRAMSON



June 30 marked the end of our fiscal year, the time frame in which we track and report information. In the 22/23 fiscal year, we had over 600,000 visits to our five library locations, with close to 900,000 items checked out and almost 11,000 people created new library cards. As clearly demonstrated by these numbers, and by the outpouring of support at recent City Council meetings, our library system is well-used and well-loved. Libraries belong to the community; your voices shape our collections, programming, and displays, and we are only as successful as our community makes us. I want to thank our Friends for the overwhelming love and support for our city's libraries. It is truly gratifying to see in times of need, as well as on a daily basis, the passion and vibrancy of our patrons. I also want to thank our City leaders for recognizing and listening to the community and leaving library hours unscathed during the recent budget conversations.

Libraries are an important hub for community life for a myriad of reasons, and we welcome you all to join this hub, whether you're a new user or a longtime supporter. The library has something for everyone. I hope to see you all at the library soon!

Also, don't forget that the Summer Reading Program is now on. This annual celebration of books and reading is for all ages and comes with prizes and activities throughout the summer. We thank the FOTL for helping to sponsor this perennially popular program.

Have a wonderful summer!

## FRIENDS MEMBERSHIP FORM

CONTRIBUTIONS ARE TAX DEDUCTIBLE

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code \_\_\_\_\_

Email Address \_\_\_\_\_

Yes, I would like to help the environment by receiving all FOTL correspondence by email

Membership Status  New  Renewal Date: \_\_\_\_\_

I would like to volunteer:

- Friends Gift Shop  Programs Coordination  
 Used Books Store  Newsletter Production  
 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](http://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

President	Martha Elliott
1st Vice President Programs	Alexis Jenkins
Assistant Vice President Programs	Open
2nd Vice President Membership	Mary Spafford
Assistant Vice President Membership	Dolores McGuire
3rd Vice President Used Books	Marcy Long
Assistant Vice President Used Books	Valerie DeMartino
4th Vice President Gift Shop	Barbara Voelkel
Assistant Vice President Gift Shop	Sharon Hathaway
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Assistant Treasurer	Diane Rassey
Recording Secretary	MaryEllen Ellick
Corresponding Secretary	Open
Parliamentarian	Dina Chavez

### Committee Chairpersons

Marketing	Amy Truong
Newsletter	Carol Daus
Hospitality	Vivian Catalano
Historian	Kathie Schey
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](http://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