

# LIBRARY LEAVES

Friends of the Marin County Free Library

Winter 2020

## Message From the Director

*Sara Jones*  
Director of County Library Services

### Reading in the New Year!

Happy 2020 to all of our Library Friends! As 2020 is now upon us with its resolutions, countdowns and a new decade, there is much to be looking forward to in the next year. One resolution that I'd like to suggest making and keeping is to support the Friends of the Marin County Free Library. There are many ways to do that and I'm sure some of these you are already doing!

1. Join the Friends—become a member!
2. Buy books at The Book Place regularly.
3. Donate books to The Book Place.
4. Volunteer at The Book Place.

5. Attend a program at the library and tell someone there why the Friends of the Marin County Free Library are so important and ask them to join.
6. Like the Friends on Facebook, follow them on twitter or Instagram. Share and repost.
7. If you miss paying library fines give a donation to the Friends—guilt free!
8. Donate!

Our library simply would not be as good as it is without the wonderful help of our Friends and they can't do it without people, books and donations. So as a doable and impactful resolution let's all do a little bit more to support the Friends of the Marin County Free Library as they support us in making our community stronger.

## President's Corner

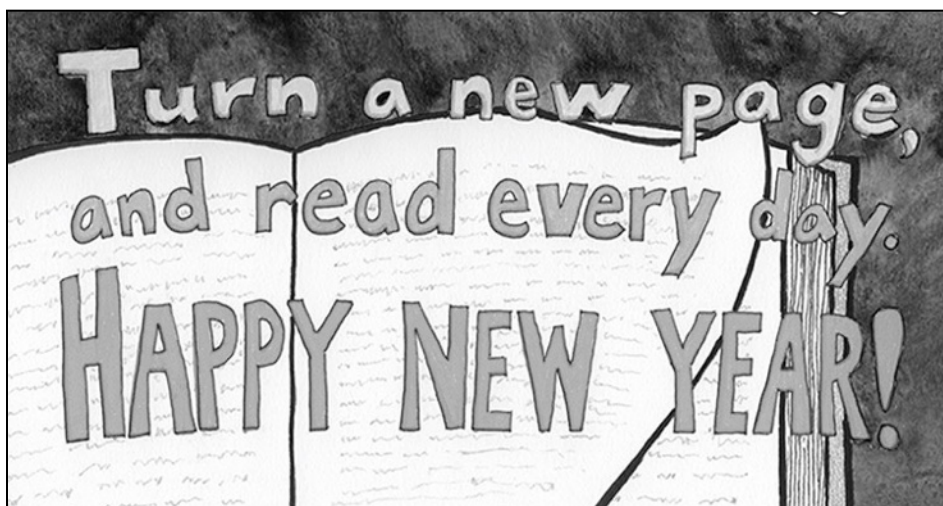
*Virginia Schultz, President*  
Friends of the Marin County Free Library

Good news! The Book Place lease has been renewed for 5 years. Special thanks to our agent, John Williams, of SVN | Delta Group Realty, for negotiating favorable terms for us, including much needed repairs to the windows. In an era when retail businesses are closing, we also owe special thanks to our volunteer manager, Barbara Madrid, and over 100 volunteers who sort donations, arrange displays, serve customers, and even do the cleaning. The store looks beautiful!

Many thanks to all our members and generous year-end donors as well. I watched the donations come in online on New Year's Eve and had a phone call from a member who had a question about donating online via the website. I always enjoy talking with our members. Feel free to call me at 415 883 5488 if you have questions or suggestions for the website. I'd also appreciate any graphics and design help.

Your Book Place purchases and membership donations enable us to support programs for children and adults. Thanks to the Friends, all programs at the Marin County Free Library are free. This year we have pledged \$38,000 for the Summer Challenge for youth. These funds provide story tellers, puppeteers, musicians, art supplies, and summer reading prizes, including books.

Looking ahead, the League of Women Voters, the Marin County Free Library, and the County Elections Department are working together to plan celebrations of the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the 19<sup>th</sup>



*President's Corner continued on page 2*

## Corte Madera News

*Julia Noble, Correspondent*  
Friends of the Corte Madera Library

Thank you for your support of the Corte Madera Library branch and welcome to a new year! We look forward to meeting you at one of the many programs and presentations you can find on the monthly calendar.

Looking ahead, this year, 2020 marks the 100th anniversary of the passage of the 19th Amendment, guaranteeing and protecting women's constitutional right to vote.

***The right of citizens of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State on account of sex.***

***Congress shall have power to enforce this article by appropriate legislation. (Ratified and Certified August 1920)***

In the coming weeks and months, the county library will partner with the League of Women Voters of Marin County to host programs that celebrate the story of women's suffrage. Look for programs and materials about modern voting and gender equality issues and advocacy resources to ensure all Americans are fully enfranchised.

*Library Leaves* is published quarterly; the next issue will be in April. The deadline for submission of copy is March 27. News of library activities, updates, photos, ideas, and suggestions for improvement are welcome.

Contact:  
Patricia Hess  
2 Flint Court; Novato CA 94949  
415-883-8309  
Hess949@comcast.net

To contact the Friends of the MCFL:  
Website: <http://marinlibraryfriends.org>  
E-mail: [mcflfriends@gmail.com](mailto:mcflfriends@gmail.com)

To contact the Marin County Library:  
415-499-6051  
[www.marinlibrary.org](http://www.marinlibrary.org)

Please visit the Community Room through January 23<sup>rd</sup>, to see "Portraits With A World View," an exhibit of work by Marsha Hallet.

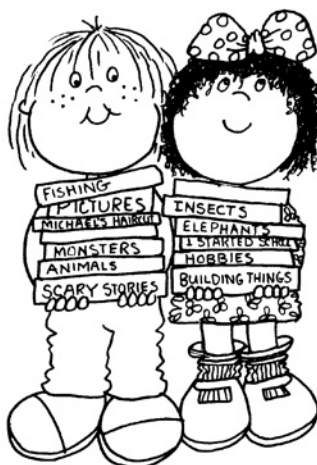
We look forward to the Kids' Book Club hosted by Debbie Toizer for Grades 4 and Up. On Wednesday, February 12, the group will discuss *Danny the Champion of the World* by Roald Dahl, followed on April 15 with *Parked* by local author Danielle Svetcov.

*Parked* has gotten terrific reader reviews like this: "Such a heartwarming story ... about the San Francisco housing crisis, friendship, looking deeper into people's lives, and how to give and accept help from others. This is so important for kids to read ... because it really delves deep into the idea that just having compassion isn't enough; you need to listen and act on what you hear and see."

Please sign up by calling 415-924-6382 to reserve your copies of the books.

Whether you are looking to figure out how to use an iPhone more effectively, get help with homework, do some research, plan a trip, listen to a story with your toddler, view local art, or learn origami, the terrific library staff at the Corte Madera branch has created programs that will meet your needs and interests.

Wishing you a wonderful start to the new year, see you at the library!



## *President's Corner continued from page 1*

Amendment, granting women the right to vote. The Friends will be participating as well. The Library will have book displays and speakers and outreach to teens and others to get out the vote. There are already voting ambassadors in place at all libraries encouraging teens to register if they will be 18 on Election Day. The road to voting rights has not been smooth. Expect some lively discussions. Even after the passage of the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment, citizens of racial and ethnic minorities have had barriers to voting including poll taxes, literacy tests, and intimidation. In many cases, they still do.

The main celebration will take place primarily from February through May, beginning with the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of the founding of the League of Women's Voters on February 15. The League is forming a speakers group, which can go to branches or other organizations. I hope to see you at these stimulating events.

## Welcome New Members!

Melani Bolyai  
Dulcy Brainard  
Cia Byrnes  
Becky Carlsen  
Anne Cathcart  
Lucy Charton  
Christian Frederiksen  
Ashley Freedman  
Diane Kaljian-Combs  
Lynn MacDermott  
Carolyn McCombs  
Doyleen McMurtry  
Mica Lynn Meadow  
Zoe Nielsen  
Austin Patel  
Jean Patterson  
Achinthya Poduval  
Stacey Pogozelsk  
Ralph and Leslie Purdy  
Barbara Schwindt  
Donna Steger  
Joelle Ternus  
Mary Waluk  
Sam Ware  
Rebecca Wright

## Notes from Novato

*Gail Jackson, Correspondent*  
Friends of the Novato Libraries

Did you think “our” Novato library was the only library Novato ever had? Think again. Here’s a look at our history as provided by the wonderful Laurie Thompson at the Anne T. Kent California Room Collection. We’re still going strong and growing after 92 years.

August 21, 1927: The Novato Branch is established in the Novato Community House, adjacent to Novato’s third grammar school. Margaret Clark is the first Branch Manager.

1945: The Novato Branch moves to the Torassa Building on Grant Avenue (current home of Alice Becker boutique).

August 2, 1965: The Novato Branch moves to interim quarters in the Tresch Triangle building where they double their square footage to meet the needs of a



The interior of the Novato Branch of the Marin County Free Library, July 1928. Shown left to right are: Teresa Torassa, Mrs. Charles Christensen, Janet Enyeart, an unidentified boy, Bobby Enyeart, and Margaret Clark, the library’s first librarian. The library was located in the upper level of the Community House from 1927 through 1945. Photo courtesy of the Anne T. Kent California Room collection.

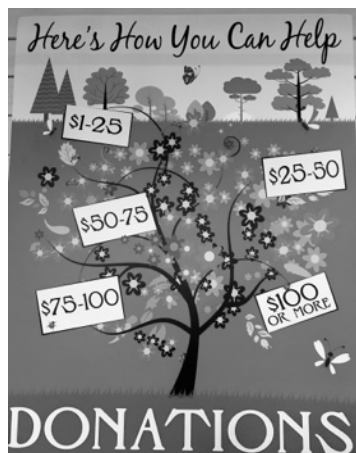
Share your love of the library during the holidays and all year round by visiting the Novato Friends Giving Tree at the Novato Branch. It is located on the wall to the left as you pass the new books section. There are giving opportunities suitable for readers of all ages and suggestions for various dollar amounts. Choose a specific item you’d like to fund (such as marker sets and easy readers for \$10 or less) or contribute to a program. Suggested donation to be used towards a family craft workshop is \$40, maker programs at the library \$150.

rapidly growing population. By this time, the Marin County Board of Supervisors has approved a “full service” library for Novato by 1968.

1968: Marin County adopts a regional branch development plan which calls for three regional branches: 1.) Novato, to serve Northern Marin; 2.) Corte Madera, to serve Southern Marin; 3.) Fairfax, to serve the western portion of the county. The central Civic Center Branch is to specialize in reference services in conjunction with the North Bay Cooperative Library System.

April 15, 1971: The new Novato Regional Branch opens in a 10,300-square foot building at 1720 Novato Blvd., designed by Marquis and Stoller, architects.

November 18, 2015: The library expands with the opening of the South Novato Branch in the Hamilton neighborhood of south Novato.



## Civic Center News

*Penny Wells, Correspondent*  
Friends of the Civic Center Library

### A Look Back at 2019

The kids’ area is now more comfortable and welcoming thanks to a gift from the Friends for a rug, tables, chairs and book carts. Let’s get those children hooked on books!



The Friends also supported several Teen Programs (Day of the Dead, Teen Advisory Group) as well as providing various supplies for events. In addition, the Monet lecture for adults, the Staff Appreciation event and the Measure A fund received funding from the Civic Center Friends.

During the year the Civic Center Library hosted a variety of lectures and talks by local experts and local authors. The noon talks at the Library often feature Master Gardeners who enlighten us on all matters garden. The evening lectures at the Anne Kent California Room Annex have focused primarily on Marin history including the Arequipa Sanatorium, dairy farms in northern San Rafael, the building of the Waldo Grade, shipwrecks along the Marin coast, rare maps and photos showing the development of Marin and the fascinating history of Lands End in San Francisco. To find out more, check out the Anne Kent California Room on-line newsletter at [www.marinlibrary.org](http://www.marinlibrary.org).

## Marin City News

*Suki Sennett, Correspondent*  
Friends of the Marin City Library

The highlight of the Marin City Friends December meeting was the presentation of a \$3000 donation from the Floating Homes Association, proceeds from the 2019 Floating Homes Tour by Tour Director Larry Clinton. Once again, as they have done for many years the Friends provided volunteers for the tour which this year included 15 floating homes with 800 attendees.

The Marin City Library Friends and staff continued to partner and collaborate with community organizations and public agencies, including MLK/Bayside Academy and Willow Creek schools, National Park Service and the Marin Housing Authority. In the new year library staff is starting a *Reading Buddy* program in conjunction with MLK/Bayside Academy and Willow Creek schools. Also new is the library's participation in *Marin City Counts* in collaboration with the nonprofit Performing Stars, the effort to make the Marin 2020 Census count complete and

accurate particularly in communities where there is a potential undercount such as Marin City. A serious undercount could result in California losing a congressional seat and untold millions and billions of federal money.

Does your branch or other organization need a program for an upcoming event? The League of Women Voters, MCFL and County Elections, will be celebrating the 100<sup>th</sup> anniversary of women's right to vote and the League's founding. In 1920, after decades of strategy, lobbying and failure, the all-male Tennessee legislature became the final "aye" to approve the 19<sup>th</sup> amendment enfranchising the women's right to vote. During 2020, the League of Women Voters of Marin County (LWVMC) is offering speakers to share the dramatic story of the long battle for women's suffrage with a presentation between 15 and 45 minutes, including an optional power point and can be tailored to your organization's desired program time. Speakers are available between January and August 2020. For information about the program, or to request a speaker visit [www.marinlwv.org/speakersbureau](http://www.marinlwv.org/speakersbureau), or call 415-507-0824.



MCFL President Wyna Barron and Librarian II Katrina Sadler accepting donation check from 2019 Floating Homes Tour Director Larry Clinton at December MCFL Friends meeting.

## Fairfax News

*Susan Brandborg, Fairfax Correspondent*  
Friends of the Fairfax Library

During the holiday season we had a display of the Fairfax Library's Fabric and Fiber Maker's Club. We had beautiful hand-crafted quilts, clothing, dolls and more. This group meets every first and third Thursday of the month at 6:30 pm. The participants are calling for all Quilters, Sewing Sirens, Mending Divas, Knitters, Spinners and Crocheters to join them.

The Friends of the Fairfax Library continue to sponsor the popular Yoga for Seniors on the first and third Friday of the month at 1 pm, and Music with Dani when children are encourage to sing and dance on the second and fourth Monday of the month 3:30-4 pm.

Age Friendly Fairfax offers programs on Fridays. Upcoming events:

Memory Wire Bracelet Craft January 24, 1 pm. Make a memory wire bracelet —no fastenings, just beads! All supplies will be provided. Attendance is limited. Call or stop by the library to register.

String Duo Concert with Amanda Craver-cello and Charmian Stewart-violin. They will present a Scandinavian Celtic string concert on Friday, January 31 at 1 pm.

Our Community Room Gallery will have artist Deanna Pedroli, multi-media paintings inspired by Miro, Klee and Matisse for the month of January.

Our many on-going programs for children, teens and adults are available at [www.marinlibrary.org](http://www.marinlibrary.org), or call Fairfax Library at 415-453-3151. All programs at the library are free.

The next meeting of the Friends of the Fairfax Library will be Monday, January 27. Please join us.



1608 Grant Avenue  
Novato CA 94947  
415-209-0212

Monday through Saturday 10–4  
Sunday 12–4

### *Book Place News* *Barbara Madrid*

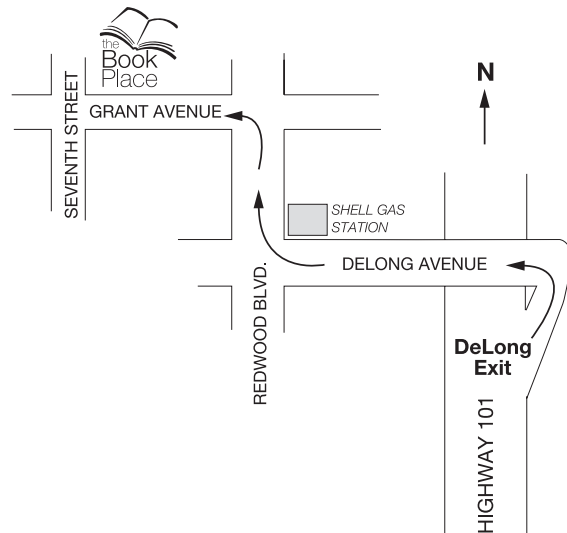
This time around, a grab bag of thoughts and changes:

First of all, thanks to all of you who shopped The Book Place during the holidays. It was a very good November and December. We hope all those you gifted were delighted with their books!

Some good news to report—we have renewed our lease for another five years! We're happy to be able to stay on Grant Avenue and serve the Marin community, raising needed funding for our libraries, offering books and other materials at budget pricing, and providing a place to donate such materials for a greener community.

The quality of the book donations we receive continues to dominate our mission to offer the best to the community we serve. We have put some renewed effort on enforcement of our acceptance policies, and ask that donors please consult our Donation Guidelines on the website before packing your books for donating. Two reasons for this focus:

- Recent news reports indicate that China, who has been the end market for mixed paper from North America, has now banned further importation, and other secondary markets (Thailand, India) are amending their practices. In turn, our vendor who takes our rejected/unsold items has tightened his acceptance guidelines.



- Our Guidelines have been in place for many years, but we now strive for more stringent enforcement of them. We are not a paper recycling center, and our volunteers can't spend a lot of time sorting through piles of books just to have to discard many in the recycling dumpster. So, be advised that some donations may be declined; we must use our labor on items we can offer for sale. If books are not of gently-used quality or don't meet some other criteria in Guidelines, please consider placing them in your blue bin. It's anticipated that many charities will have the same issues going forward. Ask yourself: would I buy this book?

Finally, a reminder about our monthly specials—don't miss out! We feature "what's on sale" on the home page and Book Place tab of [marinlibraryfriends.org](http://marinlibraryfriends.org); additionally, if you follow us on social media, we let you know of sales, interesting new donations, and just generally what we are up to around the store. Keep up with us on Facebook at "The Book Place: Friends of Marin County Free Library;" Twitter "@friendsmarinlib;" and Instagram at "thebookplacenovato."

## The Book Place Wish List!

Our counter chairs have outlived their lives!

Seeking 2 counter-height chairs, muted/dark color, with arms and wheels if possible.

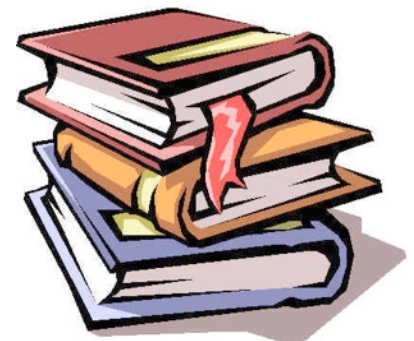
Please contact Barbara at 415.215.8542. Text is fine, please include a photo. We'll get back to you!

THANKS!

Are you a current member of the Friends of the Marin County Free Library? You can easily join, renew your membership, or donate to the organization online!

Go to:  
[www.marinlibraryfriends.org/Membership.html](http://www.marinlibraryfriends.org/Membership.html)

If you prefer, you can pick up a membership envelope at your local library and mail it in with a check.





**Friends of the Marin County Free Library**  
 3501 Civic Center Drive, Room 414  
 San Rafael CA 94903

Nonprofit Org.  
 U.S. Postage Paid  
 Permit #95  
 Novato CA

Return Service Requested

### IN THIS ISSUE

Message from the Director	1
President's Corner	1
Corte Madera News	2
Welcome New Members	2
Notes from Novato	3
Civic Center News	3
Marin City News	4
Fairfax News	4
News from The Book Place	5
The Book Place Wish List!	5

### CALENDAR

#### Friends Scheduled Meeting Dates:

- Friends of the Marin County Free Library: 2<sup>nd</sup> Saturday of every month, 10:00 AM to 12:00 PM; Corte Madera or Novato Library.
- Friends of the Civic Center Library: For information, contact Penny Wells at [Kayakqueen@msn.com](mailto:Kayakqueen@msn.com).
- Friends of the Corte Madera Library: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of the month in January, April, July, October, 10:00 AM; Corte Madera Library.
- Novato Friends of the Libraries: 2<sup>nd</sup> Wednesday of every month, 5:00 PM; Novato Library or South Novato Library.
- Friends of the Fairfax Library: 2<sup>nd</sup> Monday of every month, 7:00–8:00 PM; Fairfax Library.
- Friends of the Marin City Library: 3<sup>rd</sup> Wednesday of every month (except July and August), 5:00–6:00 PM; Marin City Library.
- Tomales Bay Library Association (TBLA): Meets as needed; West Marin School.
- Bolinas–Stinson Beach Library Improvement Society (BSBLIS). Quarterly meetings at Bolinas Library or Stinson Beach Library.



Friends  
 of the  
**Marin County** | *Fifty Years of Friendship*  
 Free Library | 1969 - 2019