

# LIBRARY LEAVES

Friends of the Marin County Free Library

Fall 2022

## Message From the Director

*Lana Adlawan*  
Director, County Library Services

Dear Friends,

This is an issue of Library Leaves to archive! What an exciting time for all of us as we work together on Measure B to ensure funding for our extraordinary library system. Those that come after us will benefit from our efforts today and look back on them with pride and admiration for our work.

Do you want to ensure that library services and open hours continue in 10 branches across the county? Are you interested in investing in our library facilities so that they reflect the excellent service and collections contained within? If so, we need your help **now** through November 8, 2022. I encourage you to visit [www.yesonb4marinlibrary.org](http://www.yesonb4marinlibrary.org) and sign up to donate, volunteer, endorse, or sign up for a lawn sign or three!

Historically, there has been high support for library measures in Marin County. Through our county-wide survey, we know that Marin values and loves its libraries. However, we all know that we're in a time when unexpected things happen, such as a worldwide pandemic. We need your help and contribution, no matter how small it is, to get this parcel tax renewed and over the finish line. If this means sharing a lawn sign with your neighbor, this helps. If you can share information on your social media platforms, this helps. (Like [yesonb4marinlibrary](https://www.instagram.com/yesonb4marinlibrary) on Instagram and Facebook.) If you can assist in the delivery of lawn signs, it ALL helps. I cannot stress enough that small individual actions contribute to a big win for Marin County Free Library. We need the conversation to be, "YES on Measure B."

This is also a month to celebrate YOU for all your hard work throughout the year. It's National Friends of Library Week, October 16-22, 2022! We are better with our Friends and wouldn't make the impact we do in education and community-wide literacy efforts without you. Every book that you provide funding for can make a huge difference in someone's life, especially our early learners. I know, as it did for me.

Thank you, Friends, for your partnership, hard work and support.

## Let's go Measure B!



## President's Corner

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

If you're reading this newsletter, I'm certain that you, like me, feel that libraries are important to the well-being of a community, and vital to make our communities a place where people want to live, work, play, and shop. Libraries serve everyone, rich and poor, young and old. The library offers programs, supported by the Friends, from bilingual storytime to tech help for adults. Many people depend on the library for a connection to the internet. And our wonderful Marin County Free Library staff serves everyone with enthusiasm and respect.

By voting YES on Measure B on the November 8 ballot, you can ensure the future of the Marin County Free Library system. The measure was first passed in 2010, renewed in 2014, and will expire in 2024. Measure B will:

- Keep library branches from being closed
- Repair leaking roofs, siding, foundations, and HVAC systems
- Increase book and ebook collections, resulting in shorter wait times for popular titles
- Maintain services for seniors, residents with disabilities and families
- Maintain library hours and 24/7 library access.

Walking into our libraries you see a happy, attractive, vibrant scene. But some of our facilities are over 50 years old and beneath the surface, they need upgrades and repairs.

The Friends of the Marin County Free Library and its chapters have enthusiastically endorsed Measure B. I hope you will join us in endorsing the measure, displaying a lawn sign, and donating to the campaign.

Learn how you can help at <https://www.yesonb4marinlibrary.org/>. Thank you for your support!

## Welcome New Members!

Pat Becker  
Eglin Duong  
Shireen Kennedy  
Nansi Timmer



*Library Leaves* is published quarterly; the next issue will be in January. The deadline for submission of copy is December 29. 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: [www.marinlibraryfriends.org](http://www.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)

## Marin City News

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

Our branch is still recovering from the closing down of services during the Covid19 so events for children and adults inside the Library are still somewhat limited. The Webstar program, staffed by Etienne Douglas, Library Technical Program Coordinator, is fully functioning at our branch and the Novato branches. Etienne was honored by the Marin Library Foundation as one of “three individuals who have exemplified Action for Equity” at a reception on September 29 at Marin Civic Center. Other honorees were the Rosenberger Family and MCFL Teen Leadership.

“The Legacy of Marin City – A California Story from 1942 to 1962” currently at the Marin Center Exhibit Hall’s Bartolini Gallery is a unique and must-see celebration of Marin City’s 80<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Marin County Cultural Services and the Marin County Cultural Association have put together an interactive historical and immersive experience that features memorabilia from Black shipyard workers who worked at Sausalito’s Marin shipyard during World War II, and were housed in what is now Marin City from 1942 to 1962. Admission is free. It will run until November 1, 2022, open 9AM–4PM. Closed weekends. The Bartolini Gallery is located at 10 Avenue of the Flags, San Rafael, in the Exhibit Hall.

## Year End Treasurer’s Report 2021-2022

*Lynn MacDermott, Treasurer*  
Friends of Marin County Free Library

### County Friends 7/1/21–6/30/22

<b>Beginning Balance</b>	<b>\$192,760</b>
<b>Income:</b>	
Membership/Contributions	34,499
Book Sales	116,804
Investment Income	589
<b>Total Income</b>	<b>\$151,892</b>
<b>Outgo:</b>	
Library Support:	
Adult Programs	2,500
Youth Programs	72,961
Staff Appreciation	2,270
Diane Rosenberger Scholarship	8,606
Fairfax Garden Project	1,000
Measure A Renewal Savings	7,000
Book Place Expenses	84,371
General Mgmt & Admin	18,496
<b>Total Outgo</b>	<b>\$197,204</b>
<b>Ending Balance</b>	<b>\$147,448</b>

It has been a good year. Our support for the Marin County Free Library increased to a record level, as their programs began to return to normal. We experienced an upturn in membership dues and contributions, with an increase of 31% over last year, and our Friends’ bookstore, The Book Place, also saw an increase in sales.

Note that this report does not include financial data from our five chapters (Friends of Civic Center Library, Friends of Corte Madera Library, Friends of Fairfax Library, Friends of Marin City Library, and Friends of Novato Libraries). Their financial information will be incorporated later in the year for our filings as a 501(c)3 with the IRS and FTB.



The Children’s Room at The Book Place, The Friends of the Library’s fabulous used book store. Come visit us at 1608 Grant Avenue in lovely downtown Novato.

## Corte Madera News

*Julia Noble, Correspondent*

Friends of the Corte Madera Library

The Corte Madera branch has once again become a busy place. Each week the library offers a variety of programs for children, teens and adults. All programs are free of charge and are open to the public. As Benjamin Franklin once said, "An investment in knowledge pays the best interest."

Currently, take a StoryWalk!  
StoryWalk® is a fun, family-friendly, outdoor activity, where pages of a book are placed along a walking route. Each stop along the way displays one page of the book. The book, *Agua, Agua! / Water, Water* by Jorge Argueta tells the story of the water cycle from the perspective of one little droplet. The story is written in three languages: English, Spanish, and Nahuatl. In Corte Madera, StoryWalk begins in the Corte Madera branch garden. Get a guide of the route from the branch and set out for a reading adventure. StoryWalk routes are available in many places throughout the county – check the library website for additional locations.

Coming in October, register for a docent lecture on Ramses the Great and the Gold of the Pharaohs. Presented by Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco, this talk will explore the life of Ramses and the extraordinary collection of Egyptian artifacts now on exhibit at the de Young Museum.

Writing as a Spiritual Practice with Susanne West is being offered via ZOOM on Thursday, October 13, 2022. As a spiritual practice, writing is a powerful tool that can take you beyond the limitations of the thinking mind. You can open to the heights and depths of Being. In this workshop we will explore writing exercises and guided imagery as vehicles to access Open Awareness, the Imaginal Realms, and the Intuitive Mind. You will receive guidelines for using a journal as a transformational tool on your spiritual journey. To register for this workshop, please go to [library@marincounty.org](mailto:library@marincounty.org).

Also in October, join Master Gardeners Arlene Banks and Deborah Spanier to learn about Twenty Great Plants for your Marin garden. Are you new to gardening, or considering making some changes to your garden this fall? Come learn about twenty plants that do exceptionally well in Marin gardens. Check the library website to register.

Story time in the newly renovated children's area continues to draw a crowd as does coloring for adults in the Community Room. Did you know that coloring can help relieve stress? According to the Mayo Clinic, coloring can help calm the brain and help your body relax. The Corte Madera Community room is a bright and comfortable space to enjoy drawing and coloring. Materials are available. There is no need to finish a picture in one sitting; come for as long or as little time as you'd like.



A reminder. Measure B is on the ballot on November 8.

We are the Library's investors, advocates and champions, ensuring long term funding and robust programming in libraries throughout the county.

**VOTE YES on Measure B!**

## Notes from Novato

*Gail Jackson, Correspondent*  
Friends of the Novato Libraries

Summer might be over but memories at Novato Library remain including

- 800 make-and-take kits were distributed.
- The learning bus came two times with stories and preschool totes.
- Outdoor story time averaged 60 to 80 individuals in attendance.
- Drop in Wednesdays for families offered watercolors, weaving, other projects.
- Teen kits were offered too, including origami, embroidery, mini paint sets.
- A bike repair clinic was very popular and we hope to host more.

And now fall is upon us with many exciting opportunities planned.

Music and Movement Story Time with Colors of Spanish! Join us for a festive time of music, movement, and stories. Teacher Guadalupe will sing, dance and wow babies, toddlers and caregivers with stories and music on the first and third Wednesday of every month at South Novato branch, 11:15 to 11:45 a.m. The program is paid for by the Friends.

Also at South Novato, come view and enjoy colorful new artwork on display. The artist, Pepe Martinez, follows in the footsteps of Diego Rivera stylistically. Hector Garcia, Bilingual Community Library Specialist, brought them from Mexico.



Hector Garcia displays artwork by Pepe Martinez at South Novato Library.

Other wonderful events coming this fall and winter include:

- Dungeons and Dragons for Teens, weekly on Tuesdays from 4 to 6 p.m.
- Gogo craft workshops monthly.
- Halloween raffle for books.
- An ugly sweater ornament event.
- Technology for life online computer help for individuals, weekly on Thursdays from 2 to 3 p.m.
- Knitfest, monthly on fourth Thursday from 5:30 to 7 p.m. Minimal instruction but a chance to meet like-minded hobbyists.
- Expanding conversation clubs.
- Teen flicks! We started with Black Panther in September. Check the library website for upcoming titles and dates. (<https://marinlibrary.bibliocommons.com/>) Flicks will be shown in the community room. This is a free event for teens aged 12 to 18.

Both Novato branches are alive with activity. Stop by and see us sometime soon!

## Fairfax News

*Susan Brandborg, Correspondent*  
Friends of the Fairfax Library

Fairfax Library's garden project is coming to fruition. Today I had a tour of our new garden and it is exciting to see the new archway entrance, the plants and trees, the ADA pathway to the entrance and the rain garden.

All the years of planning to expand our library outdoors has become a reality. The Friends of Fairfax library fundraiser for the engraved pavers was successful to purchase the benches and picnic tables. Thank you for your help with your donations to this project!

We are going to celebrate with THE FAIRFAX LIBRARY GARDEN PARTY on Saturday, October 29<sup>th</sup> at 11am. Please join us!

To follow the garden project go to [marinlibrary.org/fairfax-garden](http://marinlibrary.org/fairfax-garden). For more information about the library call 415-453-8151.

### The Fairfax Garden is under way!





1608 Grant Avenue  
Novato CA 94947  
415-209-0212

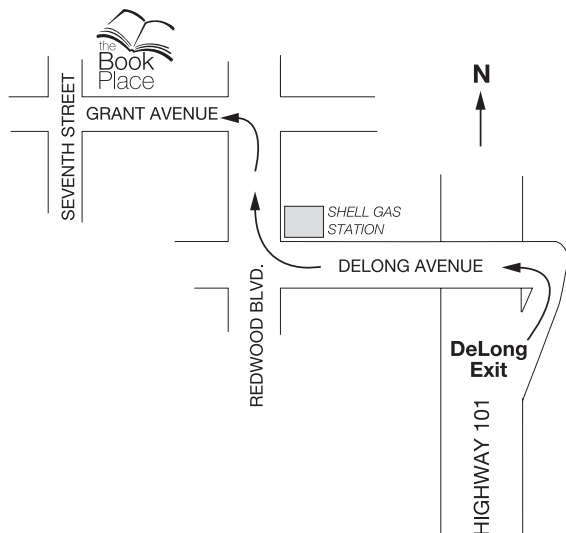
Temporary Hours:  
Tues, Wed, Thurs, Fri, Sat 10–3

### Book Place News

Barbara Madrid

October 16-22 is National Friends of the Library Week! It's easy to recite The Friends' mission: provide critical funding for our library; encourage literacy; and expand opportunity for all citizens. However, beyond the mission statement jargon, I'm proud of how our daily operations make an impact in people's lives, and the greater concept of recycling, re-using, and keeping books out of landfills.

Shoppers leave with a handful or bag full of finds which provide hours of entertainment and comfort. Sure, if you want the latest/greatest book that everyone is reading, you're not going to find it at our place in the first few weeks. Instead of stacks of the newest publications pushed by publishers, you'll find recent favorites, obscure titles, classics, and that "perfect read," while you relax and browse. Bestsellers or popular titles are necessary, but it's the thrill of the hunt that makes our store so much fun for readers. They love that people donate books for others to enjoy. Donating your books here is a small way



to divert them from the trash, and reduce our impact on Mother Earth.

Why spend \$28.00 on a book published a few short years ago, when we probably have five of them? Start here; our books are in great condition—and from this we can fund library needs!

Each year, the holiday season has the 4-5 "It" items everyone buys, or the latest #1 book. Celebrate the holiday by finding books to fit the people on your gift list, books that meant something to you, or a treasured classic in a beautiful binding. We have many customers who purchase most of their gifts in our shop every year.

Not only do you make an impact on the Earth and provide books we sell at a reasonable price, you support the greatest used book outlet of all, the Library! It's a simple concept, but so rewarding!

Sales, specials, donation info, and news are all at [marinlibraryfriends.org](http://marinlibraryfriends.org). We're also on Facebook at "The Book Place: Friends of Marin County Free Library;" Twitter "@friendsmarinlib;" and Instagram at "thebookplacenovato."

## Book Reviews

### *Gory Details: Adventures from the Dark Side of Science*

by Erika Engekaupt

The book is divided into six sections: Morbid Curiosity; That's Disgusting; Breaking Taboos; Creepy Crawlies; Gross Anatomy; and Mysterious Minds. Each section is then divided into short pieces on a variety of related topics. Most of the topics are not normally discussed. Too gross! Each piece is well researched and researchers are named. The author is a well published science journalist. In spite of its academic orientation there is a fair amount of humor. Since the book was published in 2020 it is also quite contemporary so people and places are recognizable. It's a good and very easy read. Available at the library.

Book Review by Penny Wells



## National Friends of the Library Week!

October 16–22

Let's celebrate by joining the Friends!

Would you like to be more involved in the Friends of the Marin County Library—an organization that is vital to the education, literacy, and well-being of Marin? It's fun, and it's a delightful way to work with our library staff. Please call our President, Ginny Schultz, at 415-883-5488.



**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
Welcome New Members	2
Marin City News	2
Year End Treasurer's Report	2
Corte Madera News	3
Notes from Novato	4
Fairfax News	4
News from The Book Place	5
Book Review	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: 3<sup>rd</sup> Monday of every month, 5:00 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.