

Volume 29 Issue 1/2 A Bi-Monthly Publication P.O. Box 235, Murrieta, CA 92564 Jan/Feb 2025

PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE Rita Nastri

Happy New Year Everyone! Now that the holidays are behind us, I look forward to a wonderful new year of continued growth, exciting opportunities and amazing achievements. With your help in promoting our two beautiful bookstores, the Friends have had a bonus year financially. We have been blessed with volunteers who willingly “roll up their shirtsleeves” and get right down to work, sorting, cleaning, shelving and selling. Recognizing this, we are inviting our members to enjoy an early afternoon luncheon at the Library on January 21 at 1:00 pm, and hear about all the special programs the Library provides as well as some of upcoming and fun events, many of which are funded by the Friends. Christine Baney of the Library Staff will present an uplifting and enjoyable recounting of Library activities. I’m told the Bookstores will be closed that day so be sure to come.

It’s January and again time for our Annual Meeting and election of Officers on January 21. We have four Director’s positions which are up for renewal. I would like to invite you to think about joining the Friends at the Director’s level. Any questions can be directed to our email address at info@murrietalibraryfriends.org. The amended by-laws now allows us an email vote, so be sure you don’t miss out.

Over the past year the Board has, on a trial basis, changed meeting frequencies and times. That being said, it is with great enthusiasm, I welcome you to a MONTHLY General Meeting once again. Be sure to see the time change for the combined Annual Meeting and member Luncheon on January 21, 1:00 pm.

I’m hoping all of your New Year’s Resolutions are written and include being a Friend of the Murrieta Library. I also hope you’ll include being a Bookstore Volunteer on that list. I found the following quote by Linus Okonkwo which really sums up our busy lives. “Time is the only irreplaceable commodity in life. Money can be replaced, jobs can be replaced and material possessions can be replaced. Time is slippery, uncontrollable and a treasure not to be wasted.”

The **Friends of the Murrieta Library’s** website is full of information regarding programs, location of our two remarkably organized and complete Bookstores, current and past copies of our newsletter **Booknotes**, volunteer opportunities, membership forms, and Officers and Directors. Use this link for more information: <https://murrietalibraryfriends.org>

2025 UPCOMING EVENTS	
1/13	Board Meeting
1/21	Annual Meeting <i>Election of Directors</i>
1/25	Town Square \$3 Bag Overstock Sale
2/10	Board Meeting
2/15	Corner Store Sidewalk Overstock Sale
2/18	General Meeting <i>Author Karen Robertson</i>
2/22	Town Square \$3 Bag Overstock Sale
3/10	Board Meeting
3/18	General Meeting

Murrieta Public Library Update

Dear Friends,

Happy New Year! As we welcome 2025 and look ahead to another successful year, I'd like to say thank you for your continued support and generous donations throughout 2024. Our stellar programs and collections are the result of your hard work and dedication to raising funds for the Library.

The winter and spring programs are planned and include the regular storytimes which will begin the week of January 13, 2025. In addition, there is a Kids Science Series coming up for children ages 8-12 as well as Knit and Crochet and Open Play Chess, both for all ages. Upcoming teen programs include Game Nights, a Heart Book Fold program, and a Safety Class. New for adults in 2025 are a Dream Exploration Workshop, a Disaster Preparedness Fair, and Genealogy Meetups. Also, the Library for All program will continue to meet on various Mondays and Fridays for special events as well as Hangouts on Thursdays. Please check the Library's web page at murrietalibrary.info for more information.



Coming in February is "Love Your Library" month. This month-long celebration of school, public, and private libraries of all types is a time for everyone, especially library support groups, to recognize the value of libraries and to work to ensure that the Nation's libraries will continue to serve. In recognition of this celebration, the Murrieta Public Library will waive \$1.50 of fines for each non-perishable food item brought to the Library's Customer Services Desk. The maximum number of fines waived is \$15.00. This is a great way to reduce or eliminate the fines from your library account and help those in the community who need assistance. The donations will be given to the Murrieta United Methodist Church.

Plans for the Children's Area Expansion continue with Furniture, Fixtures, and Equipment (FF&E) design meetings in progress. The Construction Design Package is expected to be submitted for plan check by January 31, 2025, and the Pre-bid Council presentation by late February or early March 2025. The goal is still to break ground on construction by July 2025. The City continues to work with the Murrieta Public Library Foundation to raise \$550,000 in funds and if you are interested in helping to support the Expansion, please visit the Foundation's website at murrietalibraryfoundation.org/library-expansion/.

The Library will be closed on Monday, January 20, for Martin Luther King Jr. Day, and Monday, February 17, for Presidents Day.

Have a wonderful 2025! We look forward to seeing you throughout the year!

With sincere appreciation,

Melvin Racelis Library Manager

Now Accepting Credit Cards, Apple Pay, and Google Pay at Both Stores

Corner Store

39445 Los Alamos Road
Murrieta Gateway Center
Phone: (951) 677-5350
10:00 to 4:00 - Monday, Tuesday, Thursday
10:00 to 6:00 - Wednesday, Friday, Saturday

Buy A Good Book



Support A Good Cause

Town Square Store

8 Town Square at the Library
Across from Murrieta Elementary
Phone: (951) 600-5724
10:00 to 4:00 - Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday
1:00 to 4:00 - Saturday

2025 Programs

Our January 21, 2025 Annual Meeting will include the election of Directors. We have four positions up for a new three-year term. There will also be a special luncheon hosted by FOML President Rita Nastri. The Luncheon is for all members, volunteers and any new members who may join that day. Christine Baney of the Library Staff will tell us about all the special programs the Library provides as well as some upcoming, fun events, many of which are funded by the Friends.

Our General Meetings return monthly starting in February and will begin promptly at 1:00 pm. As in the past, the General Meetings will last approximately 20-30 minutes followed by a 10 minute break to enjoy light refreshments prior to the program. Local author and lifetime member Karen Robertson will be our February 18 speaker.

Future Friends' programs will last about 30 minutes and may include entertainment by performers, musicians, speakers or authors. Often the guest authors bring their books to sell and include a personal autographed book signing!



We are looking forward to programs held every month instead of the past year with programs held every other month!

Fondly,

Kiki Fritschi, Program Director

Corner Bookstore Sidewalk Overstock Sale!

Corner Bookstore Sidewalk Overstock Sale

WHEN: Saturday, February 15, 2025
10:00 a.m. to 5:00 p.m.

WHERE: Friends Corner Bookstore
Los Alamos & Whitewood, east of I-215
(951) 677-5350

WHAT: Overstock Fiction and Nonfiction

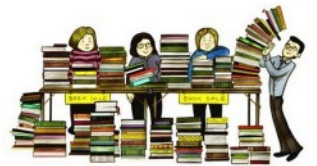
HOW MUCH: \$1.00 - Hardbacks
50¢ - Trade Paperbacks
25¢ - Regular Paperbacks

All proceeds benefit the Murrieta Public Library

Friends of the Murrieta Library
A California 501(c)(3) Nonprofit Public Benefit Corporation

Sidewalk Overstock Sale

It's that time of the year again for the Corner Bookstore Sidewalk Overstock Sale. There are always some great deals on nearly new used books. Be sure to come early and tell and bring a friend!



Scan for Friends Website

Winter and the New Year

I remember the story my father told about the two families using their bushels of stored potatoes over the winter. One father would tell the son to go find the oldest potato so that they were saving the best potatoes for later in the winter. The other father told the son to go find the best potato each day. At the end of winter, each family had eaten all the potatoes. One had spent the entire winter eating old potatoes and one had spent the winter eating the best potatoes in their possession. This is how I will look back on this year past. I will think about the best days; the days with smiles and laughs until I run out of those. With help from friends and family, those should be enough to get me through winter.

W. Dan Rexwinkel, Treasurer

Town Square Bookstore Update

*"Books are the plane, and the train, and the road.
They are the destination, and the journey. They are home."---Anna Quindlen*

Dear Friends of the Murrieta Library,

The Town Square Bookstore had a tremendous 2024 with many fabulous returning and new volunteers, an immense number of book, CD, DVD, etc donations, and an upsurge in shoppers devoted to finding "just the right book, CD, DVD". People often ask, where do you get all your materials? Well, first our Murrieta Public Library "culls" old materials and happily gives them to us on a regular basis. Secondly, we rely on the "thoughtfulness of others" who donate their own materials. We love and thank our donors!

We have been so fortunate to have so many bookstore materials, that we now have not one annual Overstock Sale, but a monthly Overstock Bag Sale. Our New Year Bag Sale will begin on Saturday, January 25, 2025 from noon to 4:00 pm in the Community Room of the Murrieta Public Library.



In the new year, our "Bag Sale" will be \$3 per bag. Future \$3 Bag Sale dates: February 22, March 22, April 26, May 17, June 28, and July 26. The Town Square Bookstore will also be open.

None of these events would be possible without our incredibly awesome and hardworking bookstore volunteers!!! We are so fortunate to have such dedicated and thoughtful people working in our store.

To thank them, we are having a Luncheon on Tuesday, January 21, 2025 at 1:00 pm in the Community Room of the Library, which is open to all members and volunteers.

We want to remind you that our store mascot, Gigi the Giraffe, welcomes children and adults and loves to have her picture taken.

Wishing you a Healthy and Happy New Year and a blessed 2025,

Karen Michaud and Evelyn Dial, Co-Managers, Town Square Bookstore

Better Late Than Never

For the first time in all these many years, we had to cancel the traditional October Corner Store Sidewalk Sale and move it to the middle of November. To our relief, we made \$1,216.25.

Of course, it takes a village to accomplish this. The sale is a two-day process beginning Friday evening when the multitude of boxes of books, the tables, the pop-up, etc. are brought to the front of the store to be organized and ready for Saturday morning set-up. On board for the heavy lifting were Kathy and Greg Cagle, Greg and Nancy Eberhardt, Bob Clare, and Stephanie and Eric Hubbard.

Everyone's an MVP on Saturday, but leading the pack were Kathy and Greg Cagle; Greg, Nancy, and Laurie Eberhardt; Bob Clare; and Eric and Stephanie Hubbard who were all there early to coordinate the set-up. Cathy St. Martin also came early and then manned the morning outside sales along with Dan Rexwinkel, while Bob Granzow and Larry Lee along with Sandra Havens (who stayed all day!) covered the inside. Stephi Villaneuva, Carol Bautista, and yours truly picked up the outside for the afternoon, while Christy Zelenka and Sandra Havens covered the inside sales.

Of course, the closing jobs are as much hard work as the set-up, and returning for that were the Cagles, the Eberhardts, Dan Rexwinkel, Bob Clare, and the Hubbards.

"Thank you" doesn't even begin to cover my gratitude! When I think "Murrieta" I think "Community," and this was a stellar example from the volunteers to the customers, and all the thousands of donated books in between that gave us the wherewithal to turn our sidewalk into another successful day serving the community and our wonderful Murrieta Public Library.

Nancy Dixon, Corner Store Manager

Membership Update

"We must find the time to stop and thank the people who make a difference in our lives"-- John F. Kennedy

We had a GREAT end of the year with membership. We welcomed six new members and one renewal.

Even better, four of the seven people are volunteers at the Town Square Bookstore!

Please welcome: Susan Firlik, Mary Lou Rothacher, Rob Crisell, Aman Kaur, Barney Monterosso, Ornella Atwell, and Joscelyn Albies.



Scan to Renew Membership



Our overall membership for the 2024 year brought in 31 NEW members!

We look forward to a great year for new memberships in 2025.

Gratefully,

Karen Michaud, Membership Chair

Sign up a friend - Print, detach, and mail form below - - - - - or drop off at the Library or either Bookstore.

New Membership / Renewal Form

Name _____

Address _____

City, Zip Code _____

Phone: _____ Email _____

Specify any special interests, i.e., Board Member, Bookstore volunteer, Programs, Membership, Hospitality, Ways & Means, Special Events, etc.

Date: _____

Friends of the Murrieta Library, P.O. Box 235, Murrieta 92564

MEMBERSHIP DUES

Individual.....	\$15.00
Family.....	\$20.00
Supporting.....	\$25.00
Patron.....	\$50.00
Business.....	\$100.00
LIFETIME.....	\$250.00

Lifetime members are honored with an engraved leaf on the "GIVING TREE" in the Library.

Upcoming Community Events

For updated information about the Friends of the Murrieta Library,

go to our website at: murrietalibraryfriends.org/

Or you can visit our Facebook page at: facebook.com/MurrietaFOML/

For updates on Murrieta Public Library events, go to: MurrietaCA.gov/library/

Lastly, for information on City of Murrieta Events, go to: MurrietaCA.gov/

OUR MISSION STATEMENT

As the Friends of the Murrieta Library, our mission is to support the Murrieta Public Library through fundraising, advocacy and volunteerism, and to promote awareness of and support for the Library as it serves the informational, educational, cultural, and recreational needs of our Community.

OUR LOGO

Represents.....



Libraries and Book Lovers.....The Open Book
The City of Murrieta.....The Letter M
The Gem.....Murrieta is known as "The Gem of the Valley"
It also stands for all our volunteer "Gems"

 SPONSORS 

We thank the following businesses for their support of the Friends of the Murrieta Library.



41520 Ivy Street
Murrieta, CA 92562
(951) 461-0411

In Memory of Adam Bouvet



24690 Washington Ave
Murrieta, CA 92562
(951) 677-0960



39413 Los Alamos Rd, Suite A
Murrieta, CA 92563
(951) 677-1700



SPACE
AVAILABLE



For comments or suggestions on this newsletter, or information about placing an ad,
contact W. Dan Rexwinkel at info@murrietalibraryfriends.org