

**Our New Librarian**

For the past 13 years, Laura Zuckerman, "Mrs. Z.," has been working as a librarian for the San Diego County Library and is proud of her diverse and wide-ranging programming for area youth, teens and adults. She has worked hard to bring in new programs, such as art, music and exercise. Her passion for programming has garnered numerous awards and accolades.

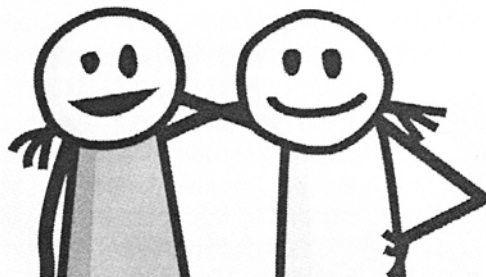
After completing her undergraduate studies, Zuckerman went on to earn her Master's in Education and then completed a second Master's in Library Science. She spent six years as an elementary school teacher before following in her father's footsteps as a librarian. She has decades of experience in curriculum development for younger children. Early literacy and the zero-to-five age range are other areas where she has excelled by providing engaging, entertaining and educational story-times and programs that are aimed at helping prepare young children for school. "The Library is the perfect place for school readiness programming" said Zuckerman.

Outside of work and career, Zuckerman enjoys spending time with her 20-year-old daughter and two Chihuahuas. In her teenage years she raised quarter horses and lambs and says that Valley Center feels like coming home. She can sense the dynamic energy of the Friends of the Valley Center Library and the fabulous volunteers. She looks forward to the challenges of her new position and getting to know the Valley Center community.



*Laura comes to Valley Center from the County Library branch at 4-S Ranch near Rancho Bernardo, where she was Youth Services Librarian for five years. Earlier, she was at the Poway branch for seven years and in Del Mar and Cardiff branches for one year. She replaces Rebecca Lynn, who accepted a promotion to the branch in Fallbrook.*

**Please Be a Friend**



Thank you to those of you who have recently renewed your memberships for the 2014-2015 year. If you have not yet renewed, please take a moment to do so now. Perhaps you can increase your level of support this year.

A big welcome to newcomers to Valley Center. You are receiving a complementary copy of this newsletter to introduce you to our library and to the Friends of the Library. We welcome you and hope you will visit our library and join our organization. We would like to thank Kathy Stech, realtor, of Berkshire Hathaway Home Services, for providing us with the information for this additional mailing. Kathy is also a long-time Friends member and can be reached at [kstech@bhhsca.com](mailto:kstech@bhhsca.com)

Your membership is of great importance in supporting the mission of our beautiful library. Our Valley Center library is an important hub for our community, with new and interesting programs and events happening regularly.

Our website [www.vcfol.org](http://www.vcfol.org) highlights many of these programs, and provides a link to the full monthly calendar.

If you do not have your membership envelopes, they are available in the bookstore or by contacting the Membership Chair.

**Pat Downing, Membership Chair**  
[friends@vcfol.org](mailto:friends@vcfol.org)

Our website: [vcfol.org](http://vcfol.org)

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## Friends Express Book Reviews

*After I'm Gone* and *The Pigeon Needs a Bath*

Laura Lippman sets her detective novels in Baltimore, Maryland, where I grew up. There is a peculiar pleasure to reading a book that features neighborhoods and streets that you remember and can picture.

Lippman's reputation, however, depends upon her writing, her inventive plots and well-developed characters.

Usually the stories center around private detective Tess Monaghan, a quirky half-Jewish, half-Irish, fiercely independent young woman. The main character in *After I'm Gone* is male: Sandy Sanchez, an ex-cop-detective working old cold cases in his retirement. He comes upon a mystery involving a man who ran to Canada to escape the law,



leaving behind his wife and children, and his (later murdered) mistress.

The heart of this story is not so much "whodunit" as how the families have coped--or not coped-- in the years since their husband/father/lover disappeared.

For the toddler set, we've purchased *The Pigeon Needs a Bath* by Mo Willems. Willems is a prolific writer and illustrator

who is deservedly popular. Both story and pictures are simple but humorous.

The pigeon, of course, does not want to take a bath, and comes up with some very inventive excuses. There are other books in Willems' pigeon series, like *Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus*, which you can order through the library system.

**J.S. Rudolf**



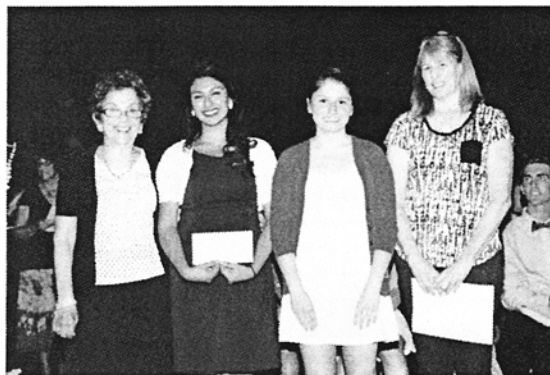
For more Friends Express book reviews, please visit our website

<http://vcfol.org/friends-express-books.html>

## Friends' Scholarships

This year the Friends presented two \$500 scholarships to graduating Valley Center High School seniors thanks to a generous donation, by Carol and Larry Gartner, and to funds raised during the "mayor's race." In order to apply for the scholarship, students needed to have at least a 3.0 grade point average, have financial need and have been accepted to a four-year college or be registered at a two-year college. Students were required to write an essay explaining what they hoped to achieve in college and/or how this scholarship would help them financially. We received seventeen applications from some very deserving students, and had the difficult job of narrowing it down to the two winners. On June 4, Marian Klein and Annie Brown presented Ana Pena and Daisy Lopez, each, with a \$500 check at the Valley Center High School Senior Awards Night at the Maxine Theater. We hope that we will be able to continue to do this on an annual basis.

**Annie Brown**



From left to right: Marian Klein, Daisy Lopez, Ana Pena, Annie Brown

### Bookstore Hours

Mon	10:30 - 4:30
Tues	10:30 - 6:00
Wed	10:30 - 5:00
Thurs	10:30 - 6:30
Fri	10:00 - 4:00
Sat	10:00 - 4:00
Sun	Closed

Some Upcoming Friends Sponsored VC Library Events  
Info at 760-749-1305

### HULLABALOO

Children's Concert  
Tuesday, July 15<sup>th</sup>,  
3:30 PM

### Craig Stone's Magic Show

Thursday, July 24<sup>th</sup>,  
3:30 PM

### End of Summer Reading Event, featuring Dana the Magician

Friday, August 1<sup>st</sup>,  
1:00 PM

*Ice Cream & Raffle Prizes at 2:00 PM*

### Other Library Events

#### After School

#### Storytime

Wednesday, July 16  
3:00 PM

Join Miss Nancy for a fun and free story-time each Wednesday afternoon!

#### Kid's Movie Night!

Thursday, July 17  
6:00 PM

Each Thursday evening kids are invited to a free movie on large screen!

## Newly Remodeled Children's Area Dedicated at the Annual Meeting

With over 70 members and guests in attendance, the children's area was dedicated to former Branch Librarian Sandy Puccio on April 12, 2014 at the 35<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting of the Friends of the Valley Center Library. Sandy Puccio was the Branch Librarian for seven years before she passed away in 2012.

Supervisor Bill Horn and County Library Director José Aponte were the featured speakers at the event. A ribbon cutting by local school children who were the top readers in their classes officially opened the area. Finally, a lovely framed portrait of Sandy Puccio in one of the fair-

ytale costumes she wore for a library program was unveiled by members of her family.



It was a morning filled with fond memories of Sandy Puccio mixed with pride at having completed the chil-

dren's area. The Friends spearheaded the project and it was with generous donations from members, community organizations and grants from San Diego County Neighborhood Improvement Grants program that the five-year project was carried out.

The morning ended on a festive note with refreshments on the patio and children's entertainment including a ventriloquist and appearances by characters from Valley Center's own Red Throne Events.

We should all be very proud. Because of the efforts of many, children and families are enjoying the library and

being exposed to books and reading. Life-changing habits that may benefit those children for years to come are being set in motion. It is happening every day in the children's area and it is a perfect tribute to the late Sandy Puccio.

**Joy Macari**



*President Marian Klein at the Children's Area dedication*

### Items of Interest

#### The Write Stuff

In May, the Friends of the VC library sponsored the annual "Write Stuff" workshops for writers and readers, to great success. Workshops this year dealt with using social media to connect with others, and the special features that make a book a good book. More workshops will be upcoming. We are also planning a few "Conversations with the Authors" events. Keep updated by visiting the library or the Friends' website [vcfol.org](http://vcfol.org)

**Linda Thomas Sundstrom**



#### Broken Rock Ranch

John Smylie attended the Valley Center Chamber of Commerce business mixer at Broken Rock Ranch on June 19th as representative of the Friends of the Library. The Broken Rock Ranch had already applied for membership. A one-year family membership was awarded as a gift certificate at the mixer. John made a presentation for the Friends following the award of the gift certificate.

#### Museum expansion

The history museum, which shares a four-acre campus with the library, is about to start construction on a new wing which will add 50 percent more space to the building. The addition will permit the display of items that have been placed in storage for lack of space. Centerpiece of the expanded building will be an historic "mud wagon" stagecoach. During construction the museum will remain open, but access will be through the library.

The group was renamed the *Historical Society* in 2000 and was spun off from the Friends. Both organizations have maintained a close working relationship. Museum volunteers also oversee the History Room in the library.

**Bob Lerner**

**BIBLIOPHILE**  
**FRIENDS OF THE VALLEY CENTER LIBRARY**  
29200 Cole Grade Road  
Valley Center, CA 92082

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Thank You for  
Renewing Your  
Membership

## President's Message

Much has happened since our last newsletter. We have had a busy and productive year. We dedicated our remodeled children's area, gained a new librarian after we lost ours to Fallbrook, awarded two scholarships to deserving high-school seniors and elected two new board members. John Smylie is our new business liaison and Glenda Bobroff, assisted by her husband, Andy, is our newsletter editor. We funded many library programs and held our June used book sale, displaying more than 50 cartons of books.

Our Board is taking a well-earned summer vacation. See you all in September.

Be sure to visit our website!

**[vcfol.org](http://vcfol.org)**

**Marian**