

BENEFITS

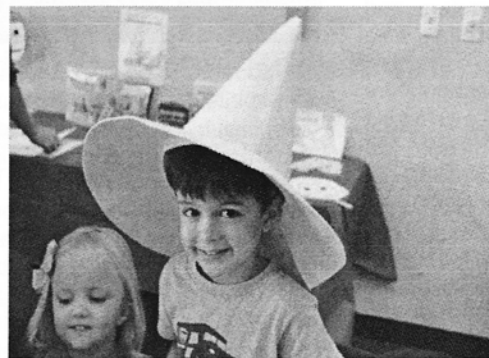
EVENTS

We are excited to announce new benefits for our Friends of the Library members:

- Special "Members Only" hours for our semi-annual book sales. Our December sale will open Friday December 5 from 3:00 to 5:00 p.m. for FOL members only. Choose your great sale items in advance of the general public hours on Saturday.
- Advance email notification of all Friends special events. If you did not recently receive an email from us announcing our Bates Nut Farm special sale on Nov. 8 & 9, please email us at friends@vcfol.org . We will make sure your email address is updated in our records so you receive all notifications. Our notifications are few, but you do not want to miss them!
- When renewing your membership, you will receive a coupon for free books from our bookstore of \$5-\$25, depending on your membership level.
- Our website vcfol.org now provides a new convenient option to renew your membership or donate to the Friends of the Library, online. You may use your credit card or your PayPal account. For details visit us at vcfol.org/join-support.html .
- Your membership dollars at work.....visit our website at vcfol.org/what-we-do to see changing photos of just a few of the many programs and projects your dollars support.



In June, thirty teenagers designed and colored their own individual tee shirts during a teen craft event. The tee-shirts were donated by Palomar Pomerado Health; the program was underwritten by the Friends of the Valley Center Library.



Preschoolers enjoy craft and story time in September. "Monkeying Around with Curious George" was a celebration of author H.A. Rey's birthday.

With special thanks to our business members for their support of our mission:

- Pauma Valley Insurance
- Lilac Hills Ranch
- Valley Center Orthodontics



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Friends Express Book Reviews

Personal, The Secret Place, Somewhere Safe with Somebody Good and The Museum of Extraordinary Things

Personal

If you somehow missed getting the word, Lee Child has a new Jack Reacher thriller out, "Personal." Engrossing as always, the novel has the usual number of savage beatings and heads-exploded-by-gunshots. As well as a couple of attractive, competent, female companions. A new twist is the actual giant with whom Reacher must tangle--will this be the one time our hero cannot triumph? The plot initially looks to be political, but as the saying goes, the political is personal and vice-versa.



The Secret Place

Irish novelist Tana French also has a new bestseller: "The Secret Place." French's detective novels should probably be shelved with mainstream fiction, because the joy of them is less in the whodunit and more in the characters and the writing itself. The setting is a



boarding school for teenaged girls in Dublin. French has the psychology, dialogue and emotional landscape of the adolescent down pat. It's all so evocative that memories of your own insecure teen years may come flooding back with a shudder. A little tightening up and slimming down wouldn't have hurt this long novel, but no publishing house wants to edit (and possibly irritate?) their winning writers. And anyway, even when she goes on too long, French is one of the best.

Somewhere Safe with Somebody Good

Jan Karon has a new addition to her long series of novels about life in small town Southern U.S.A. "Somewhere Safe with Somebody Good" starts out slowly, mostly because Karon has to re-introduce characters from previous books, for those readers who may be new to them. But eventually central character Father Tim Kavanagh begins his slow progress toward not only accepting his retirement from active Episcopal priesthood, but making an interesting and useful new life for himself.

The Father Tim books are centered on Christian relationships, prayer and celebrations. Although



there appears to be one atheist (a mean-spirited college professor who bullies his wife) and one Jewish man (a jovial sort who makes Jewish jokes and sprinkles his conversation with the occasional Yiddish word), in the North Carolina town of Mitford, everybody else is either Baptist or Episcopalian.

The Karon novels are a fictional escape from our troubled real world. In Mitford, a kindly homily can turn a juvenile delinquent into a model citizen. What happens in the village is the gentle, unsurprising progression of birth, marriage, aging, Thanksgiving dinners, town politics, gossip, and the occasional crisis brought on by a misfit or malcontent. This gentleness sometimes is true of small towns, where bad behavior cannot hide behind anonymity and where peo-

ple get along because they depend upon one another.

The Museum of Extraordinary Things

Finally, for something completely different, try "The Museum of Extraordinary Things" by Alice Hoffman, whose novels usually have a lightly magical bent to them. Hoffman is not afraid to place women with witchlike powers, or selkies from the sea, in a realistic, mundane setting. In fact, their interaction with the normal is usually the crux of the plot.

In "Extraordinary Things," the setting is New York City around the time of the Triangle Shirtwaist Factory fire. The heroine is the daughter of the proprietor of a freak show, with human exhibits like a sword-swallower, the Wolfman and the Butterfly Girl. Coralie herself is a freak of sorts, having webbing between her fingers. She needs to free herself from her tyrannical father and find love with a good man. How this comes about is the focus of the tale.



J.S. Rudolf

Bookstore Hours

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

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

Christmas on the Farm Book Sale
Bates Nut Farm
Sat & Sun November 8,9

Holiday Sale Saturday
December 6
9:30 a.m.-5 p.m. in the Seminar Room

"Buck a Bag" Sale
Last Friday of the month on "Fine-Free Friday."

Other FOL Events CHILDREN:
After School Crafts & Activities
Wednesdays 3:30 p.m.

TEENS:
Teen Game Days
Wednesdays 3:00 p.m.

ADULTS:
Zumba
Saturdays 10:30 a.m.
Gentle Yoga
Tues/Thurs 4:45-p.m.
Monday Night Friends Club
Mondays 6 - 7:30 p.m.

For more Friends Express book reviews, please visit our website

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

MESSAGE FROM THE PRESIDENT NOVEMBER 2014

By Marian Klein

After a summer break, the Friends' Board is back in session. Our new librarian, Laura Zuckerman, and the library staff are hard at work planning programs. If you look at the library calendar and our website you will see many new programs as well as familiar ones such as yoga and zumba. We hope that our readers are attending programs at the library and that you will talk to Laura regarding additional programs you would like to see. To continue and expand programming, purchases including supplies and books, and other materials, the Friends rely on our membership and bookstore for funds.

As bookstore manager as well as president, my staff and I need to tell you that our book sales are down significantly from the last few years. I'm not sure why this is so. In any event, if our community wants more programs, we need to increase our revenues. Please patronize our bookstore. We have many beautiful books, some unread, for bargain prices. With holiday time approaching, the bookstore is the perfect place to buy gift books. We will have a booth at Bates Nut Farm at their "Christmas on the Farm" sale November 8-9. We are also trying a "buck a bag" sale on the last Friday of the month, on "Fine-Free Friday." And don't forget our annual holiday sale, which will be held on Saturday, December 6, all day in the seminar room. This year the sale will be open Friday, December 5, from 3-5 p.m. as an extra perk for current members. We will also have a membership table if you need to renew your membership or want to join. Please help us help our library.

The Board members and bookstore staff of the Friends of the Valley Center Library send warm holiday greetings and our good wishes for a happy, healthy, and peaceful new year.

Items of Interest

Donate your old CDs and DVDs to the Bookstore!

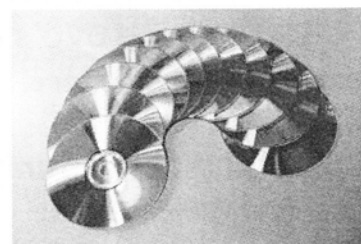
At last year's December book sale we tried something different which turned out to be very popular. We sold CDs and DVDs. Best sellers were Christmas CDs and children's music. We would like to repeat that success this year.

Many of us have loaded our CDs onto our iPod or MP3 player. They now just sit on our shelves unused and neglected. Bring them to the bookstore and give them a second chance at the December Book sale.

A surprise was the popularity of DVDs from old movies and TV shows. Ready to clean out that TV cabinet? Now is the time to donate them to the bookstore.

Questions: Contact Linda Miller: ladyflyfisher@hotmail.com.
Sorry no VHS or eight track.

Thanks and see you at the December Bookstore Sale.



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Valley Center, CA 92082

Return Service Requested

Bookstore Phone: 760.749.4371
Library Phone: 760.749.1305

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Thank You for
Renewing Your
Membership

Friends of the Valley Center Library

Friends of the Valley Center Library Present:

Special Holiday Book Sale -

"Christmas on the Farm" Bates Nut Farm Booth 29

Saturday and Sunday November 8 & 9 9:00 a.m. to 4 p.m.

Most books \$1-2, no books over \$8.

These books are all in good condition, suitable for holiday giving.

Children's books, coffee table books, deluxe limited edition of classics, fiction and non-fiction, CD's and DVD's and much much more. Many of these books have never been offered in our bookstore.

Volunteer Opportunity - Would you like to volunteer for a 3-hour shift to assist in this fund-raising event for our library? All new volunteers will work with an experienced person. If you would like more information about this fun opportunity, please contact Pat Downing

pdsnewmail@gmail.com 714-321-3955

