

Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library

131 E. Las Flores Avenue Ridgecrest, California 93555
Home Page: www.ridgecrestfriends.org



The Book Sale is On!!!

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK STORAGE DISPENSARY

BEHIND OLD ALBERTSONS LOOK FOR THE OPEN DOOR
SW CORNER



DONATE BOOKS
BROWSE & BUY FROM THE STASH
RENEW MEMBERSHIPS
HAVE FUN!
MASK REQUIRED

Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library is a 501 (c) 3 not-for-profit organization affiliated with the Friends of Kern County Library since 1986. Visit the County Library web site at www.kerncountylibrary.org

A Proud Partner of
United Way
Giving Locally, Helping Locally

Board of Directors
President
Brent Clark Palmer
760-499-0762 (text pref.)
netcowboy@gmail.com

Vice President:
Memberships
Carol Pearson
(760) 375-7258
capears66@iwvisp.com
Vice President: Book Sales
[vacant]

Treasurer
Nani Banks
760-371-2588
banksck@iwvisp.com
Secretary

Barbara Lupei
(760)375-0304
lupei@verizon.net
Members-at-Large
Terri Middlemiss
Peggy Johnson
Patricia Walters

Branch Supervisor
Charissa Wagner

Board Meeting Calendar
May 19, 2021
August 18, 2021
September 15, 2021
No meetings in June, July,
or December

Meetings are held at 10:00
a.m. on the third
Wednesday of each month.
YOU ARE ALWAYS WELCOME!
EMAIL a board member for
the Zoom link as the
meetings are now held via
Zoom due to COVID-19.

Library Hours
Mon. 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Tues. 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Wed. 12:00 p.m. - 6:00 p.m.
Thurs. 12:00 p.m.-6:00 p.m.
Fri. - Sun. Closed
Phone: (760) 384-5870

President's Message May 2021

by Brent Clark Palmer

I really don't know the right words to say to you as a supporter of this charity.

We are moving forward in new times, in a new direction, with new ideas, to help more of our friends and neighbors. This can seem like the end of something old and the beginning of something new, but really we are doing the same stuff we've always done, just a little more out in the open, and with a little bit wider scope, and the Ridgecrest Branch Library remains the jewel in our crown.

With the HQ of a slightly more regional rural library charity effort based in Ridgecrest, our local library must remain the shining example of what a rural library is, and it is, thanks to your support.

What being associated with books and all, it would be a lot more appropriate for me to quote Dickens or Shakespeare, or even Edward Albee, but instead I'm vaguely remembering the lyrics to a song, a song where, as much as I Google it, and as much as I use the ol' brain, I can't remember the band's name or the name of the song. But it somehow seems appropriate right now for us, not just after the pandemic, but after the preceding historic quakes of the previous year.

The song was about human history. It had something in it that souls when they leave here go to the far side of the moon, but come back again as the same character in a different era.

Yes, I know, it's pretty much the idea of reincarnation, but I just liked the way it was put. Around the same time I heard that song, my friend Jim spontaneously started talking about local street signs. How fifty years, a hundred years, later, nobody remembers the people that the signs honored.

Nobody likes change. But it shows up anyway. The trick is to roll with the changes and adapt OR risk becoming someone or something that is associated with a bygone era. Or completely forgotten.

I like to help people who work around knowledge. Knowledge too, goes to the far side of the moon and back, and it dies and is resurrected in the popularity of different ideas and schools of thought. A library is an archive containing caches of knowledge of every branch. Our librarians and library staff in the region are the caretakers and guides to those worlds of understanding.

So my primary responsibility is improving the quality of life for libraries, library staff, and by extension the patrons and the communities served. And I have a responsibility to our members and also to our future. (cont. on page 3)

Not gonna lie after everything we've been through, it can feel like a high wire act to balance our members with the future. But we are doing it.

As such we are open weekly way behind the Old Albertsons for a weekly membership drive, book donations and book sales on Wednesdays, 1 to 3pm, where we promise an abundance of treasures, both in books and in moments together.

Librarian's Corner

Charissa Wagner, Branch Supervisor

We've missed you!

We are currently open at 50% capacity, Monday-Thursday 12-6 pm.

Our doors are unlocked and no appointments are necessary! Masks are still required while inside and our capacity is 40 people (plus staff).

We have physically distanced furniture placement in the branch and still have 4 public computers available.

Curbside service remains available as an alternative!

Betty and Kathy are maintaining the remaining Ongoing Sale shelf inside the branch (which eventually needs to be replaced with something smaller and shorter OR mobile). We can accept donations in the branch again (one box per person per day) BUT we encourage people to take their donations to the Book Storage Dispensary on Wed from 1-3 pm. We are looking for someone to transport donations from the branch on an as needed or weekly basis.

The makerspace is coming along and we anticipate public use in mid-June as we finalize set up, waivers, training, and usage details. It encompasses four areas: Design Lab, Audiovisual Studio, Arts & Crafts Studio, and STEAM Station.

- The Design Lab offers several sizes of 3D printers, vinyl plotter, Cricut Explore Air 2 vinyl cutter, and Cricut EasyPress.
- The Audiovisual Lab offers a digital camera, video camera, green screen, wireless microphone, four track portable recorder, photo printer, podcasting microphone, and audio mixer.
- The Arts & Crafts Studio offers sewing machines and button maker.
- The STEAM Station offers MakeyMakey coding and electronics kits, Chibitronics, soldering iron (lead-free), diodes, and Oculus Rift Virtual Reality with games and educational programming.

There is a permanent makerspace, and the Community Room will act as a temporary makerspace for the Audiovisual Lab and the Oculus Rift, which can need physical space.

Other services include Creativebug craft database, Workforce Development appointments for job seekers, and Feed the Read home delivery through Meals on Wheels (we got our first request bag ready in the last week of April).

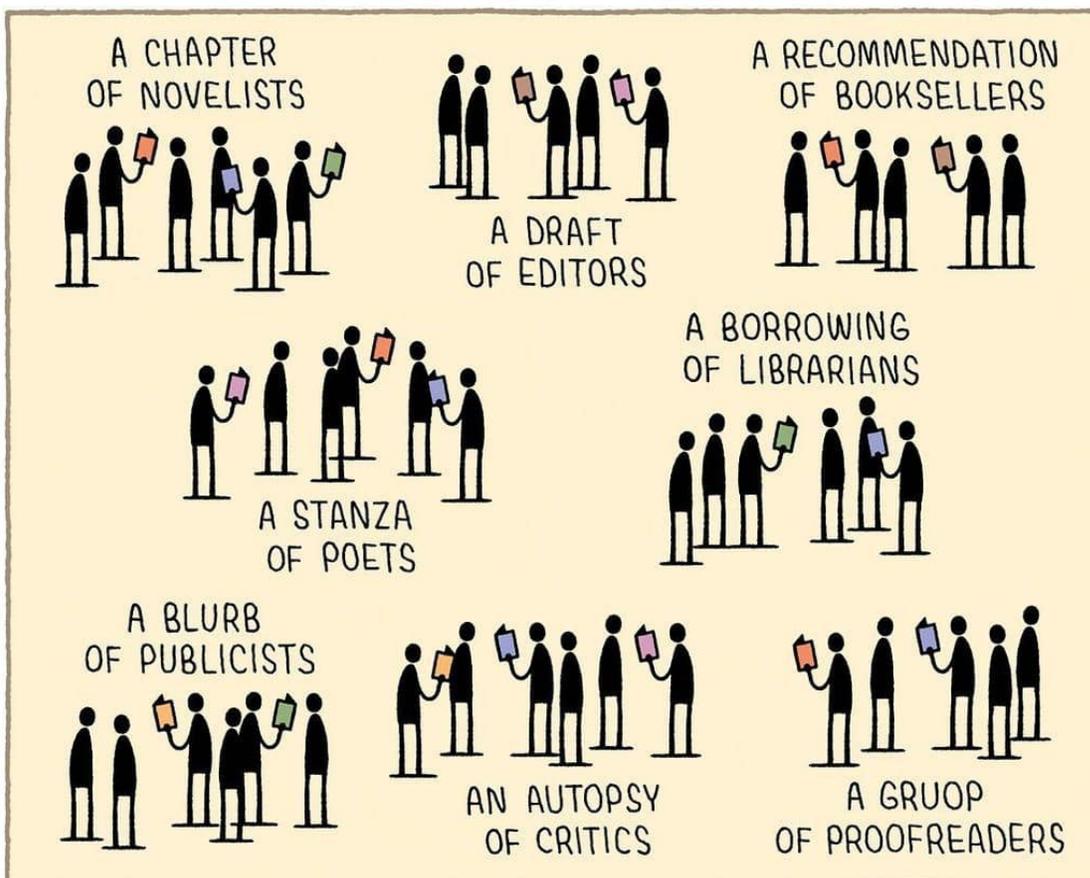
The Summer Reading Challenge theme is "Reading Colors Your World" and we are ready for another exciting summer of reading and physically distanced activities. We hope (cont. on p.4)

to see your names as finishers this summer, as we are offering finishers the chance to read (or listen) to books and “donate” a veteran care package item!

Kern County Library has 13 branches open: Arvin, Beale, Delano, Frazier Park, Kern River Valley, Rathbun, Ridgecrest, Rosamond, Southwest, Taft, Tehachapi, and Wasco, plus Shafter (through June 2021; thanks to the City of Shafter). KCL also provides Lunch at the Library through a No Kid Hungry grant in Arvin, Beale, Delano, and Wasco, and Story Tours bookmobile service to currently underserved and new areas through a generous grant from CAPK and the Virginia & Alfred Harrell Foundation.

During these times of uncertainty, we very much appreciate your continued support of the Ridgecrest Branch Library and the Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library and look forward to seeing you soon!

SOME LITERARY COLLECTIVE NOUNS



TOM GAULD

Membership News

By Carol Pearson, Vice President-Memberships

We are pleased to welcome the following new members to our library support group who have joined us this year.

Bill Brown

Judy & Don McCauley

Laura Fiorentino

Sharon Beckman

Charlene Schneider

Savannah Hinzo

Justin & Elena Ennis

Debbie Yuenger

Please note your renewal date that appears on your mailing address of this newsletter. I will send renewal notices via postcard or e-mail to remind you, but it helps a lot when you notice and respond. **When you do renew, please include "Friends" on your envelope address so that library staff can relay it to us.**

Membership Application for Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library

Date: *Memberships are renewable annually*

Miss Ms. Mrs. Mr.

Individual name:

Organization/Business Name (Business memberships start at \$50.):

Mailing address:

Phone:

Email:

Type of Membership (check one):

- Individual - \$10 Family - \$15 New Member
 Sustaining - \$25 Sponsoring - \$50 Renewal
 Benefactor - \$100 Other Contribution - \$_____

*Please make check payable to: **Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library***

Please mail or bring to: Ridgecrest Branch Library 131 E. Las Flores Ridgecrest, CA 93555

I'd like to volunteer!!. I am especially interested in (check all that apply):

- Annual Book Sales
 Ongoing Book Sale in the Library
 Ongoing Magazine Sale in the Library
 Pricing Books for Sale
 Writing for the Newsletter
 Internet Book Sales
 Special Events
 Answering E-mail
 Becoming a Board Member
 I don't know what I'm interested in, please call me

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BUSINESS AND ORGANIZATION SUPPORTERS

AltaOne Federal Credit Union
 Desert Valleys Federal Credit Union
 Elemental Equine Massage
 Heritage Montessori School
 In Loving Memory of John Starr
 KP PRODUCTIONS Graphics/Banners/Signs
 Literacy Council of IWV, Inc.
 McDonald's of Ridgecrest
 Nancy George Estate
 Pack Wrap

Pizza Factory
 Ridge Writers
 Ridgecrest Regional Hospital
 Rusty Warren's Automotive
 Sierra Sands Unified School District
 TJ Frisbee Bicycles
 Vincent Avalos, Edward Jones Investments
 United Way
 WACOM
 Walmart

Please let these generous contributors know that you appreciate their support of our Library.



Check the date on your mailing label! Is it time to renew your membership? If so, please take a moment to fill out and return the application on the other side. Not time to renew yet? Pass the application on to a friend!

Nonprofit Org.
 U.S. Postage
 PAID
 Ridgecrest, CA
 Permit #77

Friends of the Ridgecrest Branch Library
 131 East Las Flores
 Ridgecrest, CA 93555
 Return Service Requested