

F A L L 2 0 1 8

Newsletter

Friends of the Lodi Public Library | friendsoflodi.org



Annual Meeting 2018

The Friends of the Lodi Public Library annual meeting will be held on December 4, 2018, at 5:30PM in the community room of St. Paul Lutheran Church, 7011 South Pleasant.

Friends Board members will cook up their favorite soups, so come hungry! The FREE soup supper will be followed by a brief meeting to elect officers, adopt a new budget, and review the successes of the year. Also on the agenda will be a proposal to amend the by-laws to increase the size of the board from 10 members up to 12.

Mark your calendars now!



Friends Bookstore

(209) 333-5537

Co-Manager: Deborah Westler
Co-Manager: Diane Freggiaro

BOOKSTORE HOURS

Monday-Thursday: 10AM-6PM

Friday: CLOSED

Saturday: 10AM-4PM

Sunday: 12-4PM

Visit us at friendsoflodi.org

Friends Office | (209) 333-6800 x2711

Email: libfriends@lodi.gov

P.O. Box 703, Lodi, CA 95241

[Facebook.com/FriendsoftheLodiPublic
LibraryBookstore](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsoftheLodiPublicLibraryBookstore)



Membership News

Renewal notices for your 2019 membership will be sent out in January. Remember that your membership includes a membership card that entitles you to a \$1 credit every time you spend \$10 in the bookstore. If you have lost or misplaced your membership card, please contact the Friends office at 333-6800 x 2711. Leave your name and address and we will send out a card. Everyone will get a new membership card in January.

We are always looking for new members! ..anyone who joins in October, November or December will be paid through December 31, 2019. Help us get the word out to friends and family: A membership in the Friends supports the Library and its activities.

Membership forms are available in the bookstore, by calling membership chair Susanne Benbrook at 334-4009, or by printing the form out from our website at www.friendsoflodi.org.



Bookstore News

There have been several innovations at the Friends Bookstore. If you haven't visited us recently, stop by the next time you are in the Library.

In the hallway across from the bookstore, we have fiction titles for 50 cents each; now these books are arranged and colorfully labeled by the first initial of the author's last name. This should help make your searching easier. Another improvement to aid searching for books is the organization of lobby non-fiction by subject. You will see that most lobby shelves are now labeled. Also in the lobby are more shelves of children's materials and parenting books; these are housed in the bookcase on the right as you face the hallway. Happy shopping!

Another new feature is the monthly Thrifty Thursday. On the second Thursday of each month, ALL items in the bookstore, hallway and lobby are half price. This is bargain-shopper heaven! Sales on Thrifty Thursday have been very good; we encourage you to shop early!

Bookstore sales fund most of the Friends' support of the Library. Since January 2018, book sales totaled \$22,360.41, a five percent increase over the same period in 2017.



President's Message

In 2011, Anita McKeever gave me a membership to the Friends as a retirement gift. I thought it was a great gift and was excited to be part of such a purposeful group. I love libraries. My sister was a librarian and my mother worked at a library for many years. It was a perfect fit for me. I joined the Friends Board in 2012 and became President in 2014. I have enjoyed this position ever since.

You have seen remarkable changes in the bookstore over the years. We have greatly expanded the number of books available with the increased size of the bookstore, additional shelving in the lobby, and the new shelves in the hallway across from the store. This is all due to the work of the Board members...and especially the ideas they and the managers have had over the years. They have created an outstanding establishment. I often get favorable comments from customers about the great variety of materials, the low prices, and the organization of the bookstore. This is apparent in increasing sales. I remember when \$1500 was a great month; now the bookstore routinely brings in \$2500-\$2800 a month. All this to support the programs, events and needs of the Library!

Just look at our recent activities:

- *Rebranding with a new logo, business cards and publicity materials
- *A bookstore Facebook page
- *A Friends of the Library website

(friendsoflodi.org)

- *Booksales at the Chili Cookoff, the WOW Museum, and annual clearance sales
- *The new monthly Thrifty Thursdays
- *Author receptions
- *Participation in One Book, One San Joaquin
- *Very successful participation in the annual Trivia Bee
- *New membership discount cards
- *Newsletters in a new electronic format
- *Advertising in the News Sentinel and Lodi Stadium 12 movie theater
- *Annual hosted luncheons for our volunteers
- *Speaking at local service clubs
- *Sending cards to volunteers with health problems
- *Volunteering at various Library Foundation events

The bottom line is that the Friends Board and volunteers keep very, very busy!

This makes my decision to retire from the Board all the more difficult. I have submitted my resignation, effective December 4, 2018. I also will be turning over the bookstore scheduling job to another at that time. Thanks to all who have made our work for the Library so successful!

Sharon Seegmiller, President of the Friends of the Library Board



Friends Board

President	<i>Sharon Seegmiller</i>
Vice President	<i>Diane Freggiaro</i>
Secretary	<i>Pam Coburn</i>
Treasurer	<i>Judy Brent</i>
Membership	<i>Susanne Benbrook</i>
Members at Large	<i>Debbie George</i>
	<i>Becky Hamner</i>
	<i>Susan Hye</i>
	<i>Radhika Rao</i>

Friends Board Endorses Measure L

This summer, the Lodi City Council unanimously approved Measure L, a ballot measure that will ask the citizens of Lodi to approve a one-half cent sales tax to establish a stable source of local funding to maintain city services and facilities. One of those city services is the Library.

Everyone in Lodi should consider how the Library impacts the lives of the citizens of our community. The loss of current staffing and service hours would be very sad, but it could happen without this increase in the sales tax. You have probably read many letters and articles in the paper about this ballot measure.

We recommend that you educate yourself about this important issue and vote Yes on Measure L. For more information about the tax increase measure, go to the city website www.Lodi.gov or visit the Library.



Lodi Trivia Crushers

At last April's Trivia Bee at the Stockton Arena, our Friends team, the Lodi Trivia Crushers, was in the running until the very end, losing out to the team from the University of the Pacific.

The three-person team, two alternates and two coaches gathered for a group photo before the competition at the Stockton Arena. And they are already excited about the next Bee, which will feature trivia about the 1940s.

This year the Friends was a proud sponsor of the annual fundraiser, which is organized by the Library and Literacy Foundation of San Joaquin County.



Meet the library's new director!



My name is Anwan Baker and I'm originally from Florida. After working with foster children and dual-diagnosis substance abuse and mental health clients as a Clinical Social Worker, I graduated Library School from Florida State University in 2002; within 2 months I began working as a Reference Librarian for the Live Oak Library System in Savannah, Georgia. During my first 4 years in Savannah, I worked between the Central Library and a rural branch where I did everything from emptying the book drop, to Book Babies Storytime, to reference for children and adults, to circulation, and even basic janitorial tasks when needed. I was then promoted to a Regional manager where I managed 6 urban branch locations.

As the Central Branches Regional Manager, I implemented the first digital literacy program for the Central Area of Savannah. I also developed innovative programming to increase the presence of teens in the library. While serving as the Central Branches Coordinator, along with the director and deputy director, I began working on the planning phases of a new 50,000 sq. ft. LEED-certified library; and I helped design the Teen and Adult Services area of the library. After the library was constructed, I was asked to manage the new location, which I did until being promoted to Downtown Area Manager.

In 2010, my wife and I had our first opportunity to visit the West Coast and both fell in love with it. She encouraged me to apply for relevant positions in California, and two years later we moved to the SF Bay Area after I secured a position with the

Berkeley Public Library, as a Supervising Librarian. During my time at Berkeley, I've worked with librarians to develop innovative programming that interests patrons while simultaneously addressing important needs of the community. Berkeley had just gotten rid of their bookmobile when I arrived and I obtained a grant to implement Northern California's first ever 3-wheel book bike, which enables staff to do meaningful and entertaining outreach to the community. I also formed (COIL) which stands for Community Outreach in the Library to help those experiencing homelessness and substance abuse issues by bringing in relevant social service agencies to deliver services and provide service referrals.

My philosophy of library service is to first provide a welcoming and safe environment, to be inclusive of all, and to be a place where everyone explores, discovers, and engages. The public library comes alive when it is teeming with people from all walks of life including parents, teens, students, job seekers, entrepreneurs, immigrants, retirees, and veterans. I view the library as a place that first and foremost promotes development in society. I believe a Library Director should really take the time to get to know his or her community. The more knowledge a director has about their community, the more opportunities they'll find to support lifelong learning in the community, connect diverse learning experiences, and help fill the gap between learning opportunities and community offerings.

I view Lodi as an amazing and thriving family-oriented community and there are a lot of opportunities to engage with the community here. My vision for the Lodi Public Library is one of community outreach, collaboration, and enhancement through programs and services. I envision The Lodi Public Library filled with patrons engaged in coding and digital literacy programming, art and music programs such as classical afternoon concerts, operas performances, dance demonstrations and lessons, and many community-led lifelong learning classes. I also envision senior programming, business & financial literacy classes, veteran's services, poetry and art programming, and so much more. Yes, it's true, Lodi is a special place and I look forward to serving this amazing community.

FRIENDS OF THE LODI PUBLIC LIBRARY

FALL 2018

Visit us at www.friendsoflodi.org

Library | Library.lodi.gov
201 W. Locust St, Lodi, CA 95240
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