



FRIENDS of the Sierra Madre Library

FOUNDED IN 1953

September 2021

President's Message

"What is essential is invisible to the eye." (*The Little Prince* by Antoine de Saint-Exupery)

"Knowledge, ideas, thoughts. Imagination. All invisible. All live in Libraries." (*Louise Penny*, in her latest Inspector Gamache book, *The Madness of Crowds*).

It was quiet over the summer, but **Martha Troedson** and her fine crew held a fabulous **Best Used Book Sale** outdoors in August. They are hoping to hold a regular sale in October as the room in the basement is overflowing with books.

The City is beginning to plan for the new outdoor space and we will learn particulars about the new Friends Book Store, hopefully by the September Board meeting. We are seriously champing at the bit to have that information.

The building will need to have the obvious features like shelving, a counter for book sales, and work spaces for intake and sorting, but it will also need room for storage of supplies and our archives.

Archives might seem like an odd choice, but some of our materials are legal records that need to be retained "forever." Other parts of the archives are a historical record of who we are and have been since the 1950s. All are currently stored in a member's garage. At one time they were in the Library basement, but had to be removed due to space constraints. They won't take up much space, and it will be a relief to have them accessible and in a permanent "home."

I hope everyone had a relaxing and safe summer, and that all children remain safe as they return to school.

Margaret Quigley

GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

During the pandemic our Library continued to provide exceptional service to the Sierra Madre Community. At the same time, the pandemic prohibited The Friends from holding our annual Art Fair and Wine and Cuisine Tasting, two major fundraisers that allowed us to raise money to support Library programs and purchases.

Therefore, we are especially grateful to the following Friends and supporters for making donations to the general fund during the 2020-21 fiscal year: Nancy Beckham, Ward and Louise Calaway, Ted and Kathy Calleton, Ron and Shirley Chan, Mariette Fay, Mark Harmsen, Mike Herdering, Bruce and Joy Jones, Milton and Caroline Noji, The Sheryl Parker Trust, Jeff Plaut and Ellen O'Leary, Kevin Ramsey, Julie Rosenthal, Wendy Senour, Tom and Corrine Tomlinson and Jay Whitcraft.

If you would like to donate to this fund, make out a check to The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, write "General Fund" in the memo line, and mail your check to The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, PO Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025.

Your donation is tax-exempt and our gratitude is genuine.

FRIENDS OF THE SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY FINANCIAL AND TAX RETURNS AVAILABLE

A copy of the Federal and California tax returns, along with a copy of the Treasurer's final report for the year that ended June 30, 2020, is available in the Library for anyone wishing to review them.

Please request at the front desk and return when you complete your review. If you have any questions, please contact the Friends Treasurer, **Darlene Traxler**, at 626-355-6220 or dtraxler2000@gmail.com.

LIBRARY BACK TO REGULAR HOURS

The Sierra Madre Public Library is now back to its regular hours since they fully re-opened in June. They are open Monday to Thursday and Saturday; and are closed Friday and Sunday and Holidays. Times are listed below:

In-Library and Contact Free Services:

Monday	11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Tuesday	11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Wednesday	11:00 am – 8:00 pm
Thursday	10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Friday	CLOSED
Saturday	10:00 am – 6:00 pm
Sunday	CLOSED

SPECIAL EVENTS

MUSIC AND MINDFULNESS: GUITARIST ALMER IMAMOVIC

Take a relaxing break at the Library by stopping in for some classical guitar music to soothe the soul. Guitarist Almer Imamovic, from Sierra Madre Music, will be playing music on **Wednesday, September 8** from 5:00-7:00 p.m. No registration is required.

MINECRAFT MONDAYS: CREATIVE

On **Monday, September 13** and **Monday, September 27** at 4:00 p.m. let's build together in Minecraft on a private server at the Library OR on Zoom. Every other Monday for Kids aged 8 and under we'll play Creative. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

TEEN STEAM: 8-BIT PERFECTION

On **Wednesday, September 15** at 4:00 p.m. we're making Perler bead creations to fulfill all your 8-bit needs. In-person, at the Library. No registration is required.

MUSIC AND MINDFULNESS: PIANIST ALAN GEIER

Take a relaxing break at the Library by stopping in for some calming piano music to soothe the soul. Pianist Alan Geier will be playing music on **Saturday, September 18** from 11:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m. No registration is required.

3D PRINTING BASICS

On **Saturday, September 18** at 2:00 p.m. learn how we do our in-Library 3D prints in this beginner workshop. In-person, at the Library. No registration is required.

BUBBLE PARTY AT MEMORIAL PARK

Make your own bubbles with a bubbleologist from Bubble Mania and Co. at Memorial Park on **Monday, September 20** at 10:00 a.m. No registration is required.

MINECRAFT MONDAYS: SURVIVAL

On **Monday, September 20** at 4:00 p.m. let's adventure together in Minecraft on a private server at the Library OR on Zoom. Every other Monday for Kids aged 9 and up we'll play Survival. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

SEWING MACHINE BASICS

Learn sewing basics with the Library's sewing machine on **Tuesday, September 21** at 1:00 p.m. and **Saturday, September 25** at 3:00 p.m. In-person, at the Library. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

CRAFT IT: BUILD A BOOK

Our monthly Craft It program is back at the Library on **Saturday, September 25** at 11:00 a.m. with Build a Book. Use a book cover to create a notebook. No registration is required.

ONGOING PROGRAMS AND SERVICES

1,000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN READING PROGRAM

Sign up at any time to nurture reading and foster early language development with the 1,000 Books Before Kindergarten program.

AT-HOME ANCESTRY.COM

Explore your family tree – right from your own home! You can now search and discover on Ancestry.com for FREE while offsite from

the Library building. Just log into your Library account on the catalog homepage, then click the Ancestry.com link under Electronic Resources to get started.

LIBBY BY OVERDRIVE

Physical copies at the Library are all checked out? Not to worry, get new titles fast with Libby by Overdrive. Hundreds of e-books and audiobooks available with your library card at your fingertips. Start enjoying more books, today!

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT MEMORIAL PARK

Preschool Storytime is returning to Memorial Park on Mondays at 9:00 a.m. and 10:00 a.m. Kids aged 3-5 can engage with stories, songs, and more, outside. Call 626-355-7186 to register and for more information.

WALK THIS WAY STORY ADVENTURE

Stretch your legs at Memorial Park while engaging in some early literacy, with a new picture book featured every week. Books are changed out on Mondays.

BABY RHYME TIME AT MEMORIAL PARK

Returning to Memorial Park on Thursdays at 9:00 a.m., Baby Rhyme Time is for families with little ones from Birth to Age 2. Children will engage with songs, stories, and more, outside. Call 626-355-7186 to register and for more information.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

BOARD LIBRARY TEENS

Do you want to have a say in what the Library does this year? Do you want to serve your community in a fun and inspirational way? Then join the Board Library Teens and volunteer for service hours. On **Wednesday, September 1** at 4:00 p.m., help us decide on the programs YOU want to have at the Library and help us pick and design our Library scarecrow.

TEEN SNACKCHAT

Snackchat is back and in-person on **Wednesday, September 8** at 4:00 p.m. and on the second Wednesday of every month at the Library. Teens can join this book club, which focuses on snacks, anytime throughout the school year. In our first meeting, we'll select the books we'd like to read this year.

TAILS AND TALES

On **Thursday, September 9** at 1:00 p.m. and on the second Thursday of every month, we read to animals. Hop on our social media accounts (Facebook, Instagram, and YouTube) to hear a story and see which animal we're reading to this month.

PAJAMA STORYTIME

On **Wednesday, September 15** at 7:00 p.m. tune in on Zoom for a live Bedtime Storytime. We'll have a scavenger hunt, show and tell, sing songs, and of course listen to some stories. Call 626-355-7186 to register.

ZOOM THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

On **Thursday, September 16** at 11:00 a.m. the Third Thursday Book Club is staying on Zoom for the month of September and you can join in on discussing Cadillac Desert by Marc Reisner. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

SOMMER LIBRARY SCHOLARSHIP FUND DONATIONS

Monies in the Sommer Library Scholarship Fund are used to help provide professional training and staff development for library and information professionals. Four of our library's staff were recently awarded money. We are grateful to the Friends and supporters who honored our exemplary staff by making donations during the 2020-21 fiscal year: Ellen Carroll, Connie Luder, John Sommer and Jon Thurber.

If you would like to donate to this fund, make out a check to The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, write "Sommer Library Scholarship Fund" in the memo line, and mail your check to The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, PO Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. Your donation is tax-exempt and our gratitude is heartfelt.

BEST USED BOOK SALE

Our July presales from the Internet, the Library cart, and miscellaneous sales totaled \$1,316.81. That added to the August Book Sale earnings of \$1,470.75, makes a Grand Total of **\$2,787.56** in the five weeks since the new fiscal year began July 1st!

Thanks to everyone who has donated gently-used books to our sales. Shoppers frequently tell us that we have the best used books in the San Gabriel Valley!

Since we are not currently selling out of the basement, we can't use any more CDs, DVDS and Audio books. We are filled to capacity! In addition, you are welcome to place magazines, old encyclopedia sets and dictionaries on the free bench at the rear of the Library as we are not selling them. We are always in the basement on Monday and Thursday mornings from 9:00-11:00 a.m. and will help carry your bags and boxes. Ask us for a tax donation form too.

Many thanks to all the volunteers who helped set up, cashier, and clean up after the hot days of the August sale.

See you on **Friday, October 1** from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and **Saturday, October 2** from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. for our next sale!

PARTNERS PROGRAM

Soon the beauty of fall will be upon us, and although it still feels like summer, it's back to school, and back to the Library and all the wonderful programs it provides. Again, those wonderful programs are possible because of your continued support! And while Spring is traditionally the season of "renewal," Summer saw the largest number of renewals for the Partners to date!

A huge thanks to Pat & De Alcorn, Ellen Carroll, Alice Clark, Beverly Clifton, Christine Gladish, Patricia Hall, Donna & Victor Howard, Ron Martinetti, Toni Navarro, Susan Quinn, Debora Ross, William Sargent & Nancy Wischhusen, Darlene Traxler, Carol Tremblay, Martha Troedson and Jane Zamanzadeh for renewing!

We also gained four new Partners – we extend a warm welcome to Jessie Christiansen, Louise Neiby, Richard Procter and Frances Smith. Thank you all for your generosity, your dedication and your appreciation of the true treasure of Sierra Madre – our Library!

MARY TUMILTY FUND

Thank you to Prudence Levine and Jeffrey & Julie Wong for your recent donations and to all who have so generously donated to Mary's fund during 2021. Your gifts to her fund are greatly appreciated – and – thank you too – on behalf of her daughter and granddaughter – who live on the East Coast and who also appreciate you remembering Mary in such a positive way. Those of us who knew Mary can assure you that she will be watching – with a very sharp eye – the progress of the improvements that are being planned to enhance our current Library. Again – many thanks.

Beth Smith-Kellock

READER'S REVIEW



This month's review is by **Richard Bellikoff**

Kitchen Confidential: Adventures in the Culinary Underbelly

by **Anthony Bourdain**

Three years after his death made front page headlines in national newspapers, Anthony Bourdain's fame is undiminished, with a new documentary about his life, a recipe book and a travel book published and a biography coming soon. *Kitchen Confidential* was what vaulted him into celebrity. After it hit the international bestseller lists in 2000, he became a sought-after TV talk show guest and the star of several cable TV series.

As the book's title implies, it's a behind the scenes look at what Bourdain calls "the clatter and hiss of a big city kitchen," but it's also a memoir about his years in the restaurant business, featuring a rogues' gallery of unforgettable characters. He wrote the book to convey his love of cooking and his pride in what he calls his "pirate crew" of co-workers, but as he says in his introduction, "It's all here: the good, the bad and the ugly. There will be horror stories. Heavy drinking, drugs, screwing in the dry-goods area, unappetizing revelations about bad food-handling and unsavory industry-wide practices."

The personality traits that made Bourdain a media star are on full display in this book, including his uncompromising opinions and his acerbic and caustic sense of humor, often expressed in adult language with a macho edge. His gleeful recounting of juvenile kitchen pranks would be intolerable in the hands of a lesser writer.

A chapter titled "Who Cooks?" profiles the type of person who typically works in a restaurant kitchen. Bourdain prefers immigrants for the job: "The Ecuadorian, Mexican, Dominican and Salvadoran cooks I've worked with over the years make most educated white boys look like clumsy, sniveling little punks." The "How to Cook Like the Pros" chapter recommends equipment that home cooks should have in their kitchens. But Bourdain cautions readers that giving elegant dinner parties does not qualify them to open a restaurant, lest they add to the long list of failed eating establishments. The final chapter, "Kitchen's Closed," includes an extensive catalogue of all the bruises, callouses and scars that Bourdain developed on his hands during his years of physical labor in restaurant kitchens. Cooking is hard work.

This is a book that you can devour in just a few sittings and then annoy everyone you know by exhorting them to read it. Bourdain was inimitable and irreplaceable. His life ended too soon, but he left behind a treasure trove of writing and TV shows for his many fans, and this provocative and entertaining book started it all.

CALL # STATUS: 641.5092 BOURDAI

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



SEPTEMBER CALENDAR

EVERY MONDAY	9:00 A.M.	IN-PERSON STORYTIME MEMORIAL PARK	SEPTEMBER 15	7:00 P.M.	PAJAMA STORYTIME
EVERY MONDAY	10:00 A.M.	IN-PERSON STORYTIME MEMORIAL PARK	SEPTEMBER 16	11:00 A.M.	ZOOM 3 RD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB
EVERY MONDAY	ALL WEEK	WALK THIS WAY STORY ADVENTURE	SEPTEMBER 18	11:00 A.M.-1:00 P.M.	MUSIC AND MINDFULNESS
EVERY THURSDAY	9:00 A.M.	IN-PERSON BABY RHYME TIME MEMORIAL PARK	SEPTEMBER 18	2:00 P.M.	3D PRINTING BASICS
SEPTEMBER 1	4:00 P.M.	BOARD LIBRARY TEENS	SEPTEMBER 20	10:00 A.M.	BUBBLE PARTY MEMORIAL PARK
SEPTEMBER 8	4:00 P.M.	TEEN SNACKCHAT	SEPTEMBER 20	4:00 P.M.	MINECRAFT: SURVIVAL
SEPTEMBER 8	5:00-7:00 P.M.	MUSIC AND MINDFULNESS	SEPTEMBER 21	1:00 P.M.	SEWING MACHINE BASICS
SEPTEMBER 9	1:00 P.M.	TAILS & TALES	SEPTEMBER 22	4:00 P.M.	LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING
SEPTEMBER 13	4:00 P.M.	MINECRAFT: CREATIVE	SEPTEMBER 25	11:00 A.M.	CRAFT IT: BUILD A BOOK
SEPTEMBER 15	4:00 P.M.	TEEN STEAM: 8-BIT PERFECTION	SEPTEMBER 25	3:00 P.M.	SEWING MACHINE BASICS
SEPTEMBER 15	7:00 P.M.	FRIENDS BOARD MEETING	SEPTEMBER 27	4:00 P.M.	MINECRAFT: CREATIVE

Read, Discover, Connect @ Sierra Madre Public Library

Sierra Madre Public Library
440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
Sierra Madre (626) 355-7186
TEXT (626) 662-1254
www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library/

LIBRARY HOURS

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
Thursdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
Closed Fridays, Sundays and Holidays

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