



Supporting the Lakeside
Library since 1979

Issue #123

MARY'S CORNER

Hello Lakeside Community!

Important Information:

A temporary vendor issue is still delaying the arrival of new materials. Thank you for your patience.

Programming:

- **Saturdays Adventures for Adults: Saturdays: see each program for time**
 - May 2 from 2:30 – 4:00 pm: Adult Arcade
 - May 9 from 3:00 – 4:00 pm: Bingo!
 - May 16 from 3:00 – 4:00 pm: Pets to De-Stress, with the San Diego Humane Society Canine Ambassadors
 - *Have you ever just needed to pet a dog?* You're in luck! Join us as we de-stress with some furry pals and talk with Canine Ambassadors about San Diego Humane Society Services
 - May 23 from 3:00 – 4:00 pm: Color Me Calm, coloring mandalas with calming music, provided by library staff
 - May 30 from 3:00 – 4:00 pm: Fight the Bite! Mosquito Awareness presented by Vector Control
- **Lakeside Book Club: Thursday, May 28 from 4:00 – 5:00 pm**
 - This month we are discussing the One Book One Coast selection for 2026: *They Called Us Enemy*, by George Takei



May 2026

Resource Tables:

- Friday, May 8 from 10:00 - 11:30 am, Grossmont Health Library
- Thursday, May 14 from 10:00 - 11:30 am, Grossmont Health Library
- Tuesday, May 5 and 19 from 2:00 – 4:00 pm, San Diego American Indian Health Center

Special Resource Event:

- Monday, May 4 from 10:00 am – 1:00 pm: The Live-WOW (Live Well On Wheels) Bus will be in the library parking lot for customers to sign up for CalFresh and Medi-Cal. You can also inquire about existing cases and learn about the new federal and state policy changes

The bus will be at the library the first Monday of each month, in May, June, and July.

Resources:



Did you know you could get a State Park Pass from the library?

Simply go to our website at www.sdcl.org and type **Park Pass** into the search bar at the top. It will bring you to a page for **California State Library Parks Pass**, where you can place a hold on a pass. You will also see a link for the complete details at <http://checkoutcastateparks.com/> where you can see a list of the over 200 participating state parks, FAQs and more.

IMPORTANT NOTE: Park Passes are in extremely high demand in the summer months, so please plan ahead. During the off-season, we may have park passes available at the desk when you visit the library.



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***NEW* Library Highlight: A service or program we are highlighting each month**

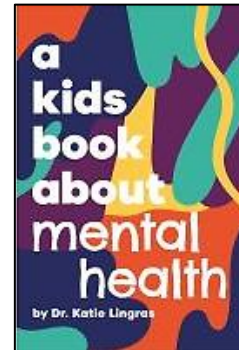
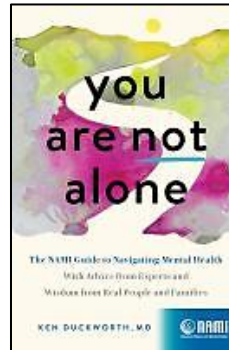
- Raising a Reader, ages 6-11: An early literacy class taught monthly by Lakeside Branch Manager Mary Lanese, and Santee Branch Manager Liz Vagani, at Las Colinas Women's Detention Center.
 - This program was started by Santee Branch Manager Liz Vagani, when she realized that she had approximately 500 women in the Santee Community that did not receive library services, due to their incarceration. Working in collaboration with the County Sheriff Reentry Services and library administration, Liz created a curriculum for Raising a Reader, Birth – age 5. Liz and her Librarian I Carolyn Kimmel began teaching that class once per month, with overwhelming success.

One piece of feedback they received from many women who attended, was they wanted to know how to help their school-aged kids with reading skills. Liz reached out to Mary at Lakeside because of Mary's years as an elementary school librarian, and together they created the curriculum for Raising a Reader, ages 6-11. Each month, Liz and Mary go to Las Colinas to teach women how children in elementary school learn literacy skills, what to do when a child is struggling with reading, and how to help their school-aged children become confident readers.

Closures: The Library will be closed on Monday, May 25th, in observance of the Memorial Day holiday.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month!

Check out these books in our catalogue:



Stay safe, healthy, and connected,

Mary Lanese

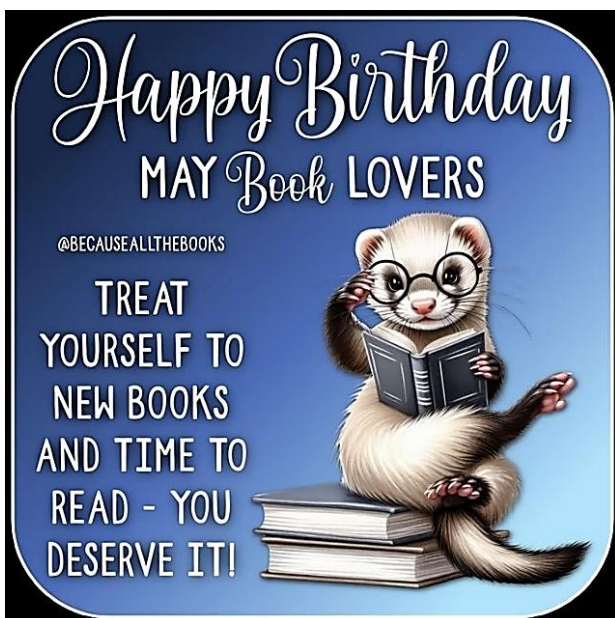
BOARD MEETINGS

The next board meeting will be on Tuesday, May 12th at 4:30 pm in the Library Conference room. (Day and time have been changed to hopefully allow more people to attend, and the library is open later on Tuesdays.)

Contact us to ask questions or to volunteer your time. We can be reached at 619-631-5614. Leave a message and someone will return your call, or e-mail us at lakesidecafriends@gmail.com

"To build up a library is to create a life. It's never just a random collection of books"

- Carlos María Domínguez





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MEMBERSHIP

There are many benefits to becoming a member of the Lakeside Friends of the Library. Members receive the latest news on the library, are entitled to Members Only book sales, get a free punch card, may attend Board meetings and are invited to the yearly general membership meetings.

Individual membership - \$15 / year
Senior membership - \$10 / year
Veterans - \$10 / year
Family membership - \$25 / year
Lifetime membership - \$150

Your membership supports library programs that the County does not fund. With our larger facility, there is room to hold events in various areas at the same time. The library staff has many programs planned and also welcomes your suggestions.

You can renew your membership in person at the library bookstore, on our website lakesidecafriends.org, or mail your check with your name, address, phone number, email and type of membership to Lakeside Friends of the Library, 12428 Woodside Avenue, Lakeside, CA 92040.

Thank you to all new and renewing members for joining and supporting the Lakeside Library.

Sandra C. – Senior
Deanna M. – Individual
Sara Tobias - Family



WHAT'S HAPPENING IN LAKESIDE

Recently, a friend of mine shared these comments with me via text after visiting the Lakeside Library and Bookstore for the first time with her grandkids. She currently lives in Arizona; her text is in *Italics*:

"We had a fun time at the Lakeside Library today. We also bought some books at the bookstore. The ladies in the bookstore were so sweet. (It was a Thursday morning, so it was Jean and Carole, two of our OG's). They gave him stickers for him and his sister. The Wiggles and Giggles program was a hit with both of the kids. Nice facility 🍌"

We would love to hear from other customers about their experiences at the library. Send us an email at lakesidecafriends@gmail.com or give us a call, 619-631-5614.

FRIENDS OF SEDONA LIBRARY

I had the pleasure of visiting the Friends of the Sedona Library Used Book Store recently. It's Sedona's #1 source for used books and more.



It's located in a house across from the library. With all that space, they make a lot more money than our bookstore and are able to support their library more.

Similar to LFOL, the Friends of the Sedona Library supports the Community Library in Sedona as it strives to encourage literacy, lifelong learning, and the love of reading throughout the diverse community. The Friends group enhances the Library's resources, increases the community's access to information and knowledge, helps provide a vibrant cultural gathering place, and cultivates a sense of public involvement through volunteering for the community.



Stop by if you are ever in Sedona, AZ. You are in for a treat.

"Libraries are a cornerstone of democracy—where information is free and equally available to everyone. People tend to take that for granted, and they don't realize what is at stake when that is put at risk"

- Carla Hayde



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BOOKSTORE HAPPENINGS

MEMBERS ONLY SALE 50% OFF MAY 26 – 30, BOOKS ONLY. Remember, we are the only bookstore in Lakeside, and our prices can't be beat!!

We now have free books. They will have dots on the spine of the books. Just ask our volunteers to show you where they are.

We are so grateful for our volunteers who cover various shifts. Their time is precious just like yours. They work hard to make our bookstore a friendly place as well as to process your donations. Our goal is to support library programs, but we have to balance that with our own priorities.

We are going to have some closures due to the upcoming Holiday Weekends:

May 23rd – Memorial Day
June 19th and 20th - Juneteenth
July 3rd and 4th – Independence Day
September 5th – Labor Day

We will post signs. Many of these closures coincide with the Library closures. Thank you for understanding.

We also sell **Gift Certificates** in our bookstore in any denomination. If the recipient can't use the entire amount we will give them credit for the unused portion. What a great gift for special occasions like Mother's Day, Graduation, Father's Day, etc. Stop by soon!!

As always, we will accept donations of your gently used books during our business hours, Monday through Saturday, 11:00 am to 4:00 pm except for Tuesday when we open at 12:00 pm. Please call during business hours with any questions: 619-219-6709.



BOOK REVIEW

The Ride of Her Life - by Elizabeth Letts

This is the true story of Annie Wilkins, a 63-year-old Maine farmer and her amazing journey across America on horseback by herself. This was in 1954, she had lost her only family, her farm, had no money, and her doctor had just told her that she only had two years to live. She did not want to go into the County Charity Home as some suggested. She had always wanted to see the Pacific Ocean, so she bought a cast-off horse named Tarzan, loaded her meager supplies, dressed in men's clothing, and set off headed south, along with her small dog called Depeche Toi. She didn't even have a map, and it was November.

From 1954 through 1956 she traveled 4,000 miles through big cities and small towns, climbed mountains, forded rivers, encountered blizzards and floods, rode along narrow shoulders of busy roads as cars went by at terrifying speeds. Along the way she met many ordinary people and celebrities from Andrew Wyeth, who sketched Tarzan, to Art Linkletter and Groucho Marx. She received many offers; a permanent home at a riding stable in New Jersey, a job at a gas station in rural Kentucky, even a marriage proposal from a Wyoming rancher, all of which he refused.

She often depended on the kindness of strangers for food and shelter. She was taken in by many very friendly and helpful people, but was chased off by others not so friendly. She sometimes spent nights in a local jail cell; it was a common practice back then to allow travelers to sleep in empty cells.

I thoroughly enjoyed reading this book about an amazing, independent woman who refused to give up. If you want to read it too, I will be donating the book back to the bookstore, it will be in the Large Print section. The library also has copies in many formats.

- Sharon Smith, Bookstore Volunteer/Newsletter Editor