

Learn by doing: how libraries transform

Makerspace inspires creativity and learning. Have you heard about the Create Lab?

It might have been an ordinary day, like any other, but not for these children. For them, it became extraordinary. On a recent Saturday, they were participating in the Create Lab, a pop-up makerspace (a community gathering place with tools) that is geared toward children in grades K – 6. We humans learn by different means—auditory, visual and tactile modes of learning, among others. But learning by doing encompasses all of these methods. Children big and small made exciting discoveries, experienced lots of stimulation and had a great deal of fun.

The spring session of Create Lab, which began in January, will run through the end of May. Located in the Storytime Room on Saturdays at the Civic Center, Create Lab participants use a variety of tools to create, including a sewing machine at the textiles station, LEDs and batteries at the electricity station, and much more. The Library provides cardboard, perler beads, modeling clay, and other more traditional construction materials as well.

Create Lab is made possible thanks to donations from the Friends of the Livermore Library and an anonymous donation. It's an open learning environment where participants can be creative and take charge of their own learning. The Create Lab also hosts knowledgeable volunteers to help participants learn new skills. Robot Garden, a local robotics-themed makerspace for hobbyists and entrepreneurs, will be supporting Create Lab with expertise and technology.



See more Create Lab pictures, page 4.



Friends FOOTNOTES

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VISIT THE FRIENDS BOOKSTORE

at Civic Center Library
1188 S. Livermore Avenue
Livermore, CA
(925) 373-5520

SATELLITE BOOKSTORES

Panama Red Coffee Company

2115 First Street

Starbucks

101 E. Vineyard Avenue at Isabel

Rincon Branch Library

725 Rincon Avenue

FRIENDS ONLINE STORE

www.amazon.com/shops/
livermorelibraryfriends
www.thriftbooks.com/library/foll/

BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEET

Third Thursday 7 pm at Civic Center
Library Board Room
Jan., Mar., May, Jul., Sept., & Nov.

OFFICERS 2016-2017

Dave Runyon	vacant
PRESIDENT	VICE PRESIDENT
Matt Berry	Robert Thornhill
TREASURER	SECRETARY

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 2016 – February 28, 2017

Total Income:	\$50,541
Total Expenses:	\$17,531
Library Grants:	\$40,750
Net Assets:	\$116,323

President's Message

As spring is in the air, we say goodbye to another incredible Livermore Reads Together, and look forward to upcoming summer events, including the Summer Reading Program and Jazz in July. Create Labs and the new teen programs we enabled with grants from donations of books and membership fees are giving elementary through high school students the chance to increase their hands-on STEM (science, technology, engineering and mathematics) skills and have fun doing it. We launched our crowd-funding site, continue to operate the best Book Store at the Civic Center, process donated books, sell online and have opened a third satellite bookstore at the Rincon branch. All our volunteers are going the extra mile to make sure we continue to have the finest library programs in the Tri-Valley. Thank you all very much. The Library staff is continuing to innovate in support of our community and we have stepped up our support as well. Audit and Nominating committees are being formed, and we will be having officer elections soon. It is a privilege to be part of this wonderful organization.

– Dave Runyon



Librarian Kathryn Kaldhusdal examines a book at the Rincon Branch satellite store.



Writers connect monthly

Writing is often a solitary pursuit, but there are times when it helps to be among those who understand that finding the right word is not always easy. A Writers Meetup for adults 18 and older began on March 7 at the the Civic Center Library. Hosted by local writer and NaNoWriMo (National Novel Writing Month) participant Sydney Dent, the Writers Meetup provides a time and place for both aspiring and experienced writers to write, share, make connections, and get advice. Any adults interested in writing their first book or just seeking the motivation to write, as well as published writers seeking support and encouragement are welcome. They meet on the first Tuesday of every month, 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm, at the Civic Center. There is no charge for this event, and no sign-up is needed.



There is also a writing club for young adults who may wish to improve their writing skills or learn new techniques for writing plays, stories or poems. Whether you are a seasoned writer or just starting out, join published Young Adult author J.L. Powers at the Writing Club for Young Adults. Young adults aged 13 through 21 will meet from 6:30 to 8:30 pm on April 20, and May 18. The meetings are at the Civic Center Library, in the Storytime Room. The club is free and no registration is required. Aspiring writers may attend each meeting or just one! For more information, please contact Teen Services Librarian Jennifer Mosel at 925-373-5576.

Crowdfunding Q and A

What is crowdfunding?

Simply put, it is the practice of funding a project or venture by raising many small amounts of money from a large number of people, typically via the Internet. The money raised this way is then deposited into our account to be used for library programs.

Friends of the Livermore Library (FOLL) is now using crowdfunding to raise money to help pay for the financial support we give the library. We are on the web at the [FOLL Crowdrise Site](#). Control/click on the link or copy and paste into your browser:

www.crowdrise.com/friends-of-the-livermore-public-library#top

Please continue to help us to raise funds for wonderful Library programs. If you use Facebook or other social media sites, please share this site to help spread the word. We are also working with Library staff to provide updates and help publicize this new, easy way for people to help support the community programs at the Library.

AmazonSmile is making Friends smile!

AmazonSmile is a simple and automatic way for you to donate to the Friends of the Livermore Library each time you make a purchase on Amazon.com. Amazon will donate 0.5% of the purchase price from eligible *AmazonSmile* items to our organization. Many of us shop on Amazon.com, so this is an easy way to help our beloved libraries.

How does this work?

Simply go to smile.amazon.com on your computer or mobile device. You'll find that many products are eligible for donations. You can use your existing amazon.com account. On your first visit, you select the Friends of the Livermore Library. Amazon will remember your selection, so that every time you order an eligible product, Friends of the Livermore Library will receive the credit.

Our unique charity link:

smile.amazon.com/ch/94-2529895



Learn by doing: how libraries transform [CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1]



*Top: The right size for holding.
Left: The smile says it all.
Right: It takes two sometimes.*



Library Director Message

By Tamera LeBeau

DIRECTOR OF LIBRARY SERVICES

Why do we still need public libraries now that we have the Internet? Every library staff member has probably heard that question at least once. Elements of Livermore Public Library's mission statement provide a great answer to that question.

Education – schools provide formal education, but public libraries provide a wide variety of lifelong learning opportunities. Our baby storytimes help parents teach their babies the skills they will need for literacy, while our Armchair Traveler programs share different parts of the world with attendees. The Library's Create Lab provides weekly hands-on learning opportunities for children and the "Library of Things" offers educational materials for checkout, including microscopes, telescopes, programmable robots, and more. We also have résumé and interviewing classes, classes on applying for college, one-on-one computer training, and online classes through Gale Courses on everything from writing to accounting.

Information – yes, despite Google, libraries are still important centers for information. We provide information through books and through our curated collection of digital materials. Even more importantly, our librarians teach the skills needed to navigate through the "information clutter" of the modern world. Librarians work directly with local schools to teach research

skills to students, including classes on how to differentiate valid information from fake news, an increasingly important skill in the Internet age.

Reading and quiet contemplation – this has been the library's traditional role, and a role that we still embrace. Despite the addition of computers and some new material formats, books are still central to what we do. Some areas of our library have become active learning centers, but we maintain the Civic Center reading room as a quiet space for reading, study, and contemplation. Whether it's a book to learn a new hobby, or a cozy mystery, library staff can help you find it. And don't forget our popular Summer Reading and Livermore Reads Together programs that encourage learning through reading.

Cultural enrichment – the Friends of the Library are a huge help in this area. Friends' funding provides the Authors & Arts programs, Jazz in July, and cultural programs for children throughout the year.

As stated in the Library's mission, "The Livermore Public Library encourages the development of a lifelong interest in reading and learning by youth and adults, provides materials and services of popular interest, supports the educational needs of the community, furnishes timely, accurate information, and builds cultural awareness and enrichment." The public library welcomes people

of all ages, all cultures, all economic statuses, and all education levels. The Livermore Public Library is the community's free and open space for lifelong learning.

National Library Week

National Library Week will be observed April 9-15, 2017 with the theme, "Libraries Transform." National Library Week, sponsored by the American Library Association (ALA) since 1958 and by libraries across the country each April, is a time to celebrate the contributions of our nation's libraries and librarians and to promote library use and support. All types of libraries - school, public, academic and special - participate.

Sunday, April 2, 2 pm
Civic Center

Livermore history with John Shirley

Livermore will be 141 years old on April 1! In celebration of that anniversary, former Livermore Mayor John Shirley will speak about the history of Livermore in the mid and late twentieth century. He'll present aerial pictures from that time period as well as the early 2000s.

Shirley was in the US Army during WWII, attended UC Davis and became a veterinarian, practicing in Livermore for over 30 years. He served on the Livermore City Council from 1958-1966, two of those years as mayor. Shirley, 92, has been a longtime volunteer, including decades with Livermore Rotary Club.

Sunday, April 23, 2 pm
Civic Center

Songs of Shakespeare

Vita Voci, an eight-person vocal ensemble, will present music set to the texts of Shakespeare. The musical settings span the 14th-21st centuries from England's Bennet and Vaughan Williams to Denmark's Jeppesen, Finland's Mäntyjärvi and America's Matthew Harris. This delightful and enriching program is free for everyone.

The *Vita Voci* ensemble sings a variety of music without instrumental accompaniment. Their repertoire spans Motets, Madrigals and Ayres of the high Renaissance, as well as early Baroque to 20th century *a cappella* works and novelties. *Vita Voci* literally means *life voices*, and this ensemble makes music the old-fashioned way—breath and folds, lips and teeth and tongue and all. Don't miss it!

Re-energize your green thumbs!

Spring has sprung and the hills are green again. It's time to get answers to many of your gardening questions from an expert! Mark Brunell, professor of biology at the University of the Pacific and president of the California Botanical Society, will be at the **Civic Center Library** for a question and answer session on **Saturday, April 29 at 10:30 am – 11:30 am**. Find out about seed starting, water-wise gardening, irrigation, lawn removal, plant problems and more.

Seed exchange program coming at the end of April

The Livermore-Amador Valley Garden Club and the Library are teaming up to provide a way for sharing seeds of open pollinated plants that do well in our local area. The Library's supply will be provided by club members who grew the plant and saved its seed. It will be located at the Civic Center branch. Members of our community will be able to take home seeds to try in their gardens. Another way to learn by doing!

Sunday, April 30, 2 pm
Civic Center

Cantabella Children's Chorus

The award-winning Cantabella Children's Choir will present their upcoming concert, with a water theme, at the Civic Center. All music selections are related to lakes, rivers, oceans, and longing for the rain. There will be a sing-along for the audience to participate with the choir. Bring your friends and family for an afternoon of delightful music!

Become our "friend" on Facebook

If you have a Facebook account and "like" our page, "share" with your friends. You'll find us at www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheLivermoreLibrary.



Flygirl Readers Theater

Livermore Shakespeare Festival actors—celebrating the novella, *Flygirl*, by Sherri L. Smith during Livermore Reads Together in February—read with expression and enthusiasm some high points from the story before rapt library patrons. The LSF cast included William Wolak, Donna Blevins, Catherine Ndungu-Cases, Kelsey Tresemer, Martie Muldoon and Tim Ackerman. Capped off with a raffle and a chance to talk to the performers afterwards, it made for a memorable evening of out-of-the-ordinary theater.



*Top: Captivated audience.
Left: Lucky raffle winners.
Right: LSF readers in action.*



What do we sell on Amazon?

By Bill Leach

Now and then we bring you up to date on our online sales activities, which are going well – sometimes very well, as in January when the Friends sold a \$750 book donated to us. Do you wonder what you have on your home shelf that you no longer use and FOLL could benefit from?

Non-fiction outsells fiction ten-to-one. Best non-fiction sellers are in the science and history categories, but we have recently had good sales with acupuncture, hypnotism, and nutrition. Fiction categories don't seem to have a pattern, but anthologies of comics would be welcome, as would Dungeons and Dragons books. Amazon will also allow us to sell audio materials such as books on disc (no tapes please), but we do not have permission to sell video material.

May we suggest that you fix yourself a cup of tea, wander over to your bookcase, and pull out those just taking up space. Our screeners are good at identifying books that may have value to us, and you would be doing both us and yourself a favor.

Plus, who doesn't like a warm cup of tea?

Has your address changed?

Notify us at
libraryfriends.livermore@gmail.com;
drop off a note in the bookstore
or send a change of address to
FOLL, PO Box 2483, Livermore, CA.
94551-2484.



Friends of the Livermore Public Library Membership Form

Mail form to: Friends of the Livermore Library, P.O. Box 2483 Livermore, CA 94551-2483

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Email _____

Phone _____

To further support the Library, I/we have included a donation of

\$500 \$250 \$100 \$50 Other \$ _____

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities

MEMBER DUES

NEW

RENEWAL

\$10 Seniors (60 & over)

\$20 Individual

\$30 Family

\$250 Lifetime

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