

LIVERMORE READS TOGETHER

First developed by the Seattle Public Library in 1998, community-wide reading programs serve as a popular way to connect community members, promoting literacy and civic unity by encouraging residents to read and discuss the same book. The Livermore Public Library joined this movement in 2007, selecting Isabel Allende's *Zorro* for the first annual Livermore Reads Together series, and has been going strong ever since.

The Livermore Reads Together series provides an important vehicle for the community to examine themes and concepts relating to each year's book selection. Ideally, the selected book should contain compelling issues, timely topics, or intriguing characters as a springboard for dialogue, promoting different points of view. In this way, people are able to explore the critical problems of society by examining facts and diverse viewpoints. This fulfills the library's mission to help develop an educated and informed citizenry, able to fully participate in the democratic process.

To facilitate participation by all members of the community, creative and thought-provoking programs are planned – visual displays and artistic experiences, as well as talks and discussions. The library regularly partners with community



organizations to offer these programs, sharing talents and resources, reaching new audiences, and heightening awareness of community resources.

Selected with community input, Joshua Davis's New York Times bestselling nonfiction book ***Spare Parts: Four Undocumented Teenagers, One Ugly Robot, and the Battle for the American Dream*** serves as this year's Livermore Reads Together book. Community members are invited to participate by reading *Spare Parts* and attend-

ing programs designed to spur conversation and the exploration of topics related to science, immigration, and the can-do attitude that defines the American spirit.

Joyce Nevins
Supervising Librarian, Public Services

Inside:

President's Message, Bookstore News, The Donation Journey, LRT Event Schedule, *Spare Parts* Book review, Library Service and much more!

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PUBLISHED QUARTERLY BY

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VISIT THE FRIENDS

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

FRIENDS ONLINE STORE

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 2018-2019

Dave Runyon PRESIDENT	Cherie Jo Patenaude VICE PRESIDENT
Matt Berry TREASURER	Robert Thornhill SECRETARY

FINANCIAL REPORT

July 1, 2017 – October 31, 2018	
Total Income:	\$86,997
Total Expenses:	\$2,141
Library Grants:	\$11,500
Net Assets:	\$196,546

President's Message

– Dave Runyon

Welcome to Winter! As Livermore Reads Together 2019 is just kicking off, we are already looking to the future. In our Board meeting on January 17th, we again funded the Lucky Day collection of books and DVDs for 2019, and entertainers for the Summer Reading Program for 2019. In addition, we funded a pilot program for a streaming video service free with a library card (more on that in the next Newsletter). We fund all these programs well before the scheduled start dates so that Library Staff can order materials and book the best people to provide the best programs for our community (before other organizations try to book them!). We are privileged to work with the best organized, most creative and enthusiastic Library Staff on the planet to serve the Livermore community. Please enjoy all the wonderful programs from the Library, become Friends of Livermore Library members (or renew your membership) and consider further donations (books as well as financial) to help us serve our community even more effectively in 2019!



-- Cherie Jo Patenaude

The bookstore has recently received a donation of several paintings of authors. The paintings were done by the painter Isao Shimamura and donated by his daughter Susan Shimamura. She originally donated them to the library, but they did not have an appropriate location to display them and passed them on to the bookstore. Many of the volunteers in the Bookstore are happy to receive the art and delight in telling customers that the children's books are under Dr Seuss's picture. The painting subjects include Charles Darwin, Nelle Harper Lee, Elizabeth Barrett Browning, Henrik Ibsen, and Leo Tolstoy. We are working on deciding which of the paintings are the most appropriate and the best locations for them and will get the library to permanently attach them to the walls.

We have an abundance of children's items at the moment in the bookstore, and we are offering children's books, DVDs and CDs, as well as young adult books on sale. For the next few months these items will be buy one, get one free.

Each summer we have a general meeting where we vote on the year's officers. To this end, we will be collecting nominations for officers in the bookstore. There will be a box when you can put your ideas for the next year's officers. We will verify their willingness to run for office and present the candidates to the annual meeting's attendees. We will replace the nomination box with a voting box for the month.

Spare Parts: Four Undocumented Teenagers, One Ugly Robot, and the Battle for the American Dream by Joshua Davis.

The key elements of a good "underdogs succeed despite challenges" story is there: impoverished and misfit kids, underfunded high school, and inspiring science teachers encouraging their students to come up with low cost solutions to the challenges of an underwater robot competition. Even learning the social, language and technical skills to get to this competition are daunting. The accolades and scholarship offers after winning against all odds are then vastly complicated by each team member's family challenges and undocumented status. There are no "easy" solutions to the struggles experienced by the people in this story. This book is hard to read - the gap between many of our own experiences and opportunities with those in this story (the young men, their family members and teachers) is difficult to imagine or understand. And the life experience of each robotic team member results in unique paths for each after the competition. This story is important in helping the reader begin to understand the challenges of undocumented people living in our community, and throughout our country.

--Dave Runyon



The Donation Journey



Patrons put their donated books into the big Donations bin on the south side of the library, or on the table outside out bookstore.



Bookstore volunteers select what they want to shelve and sell.

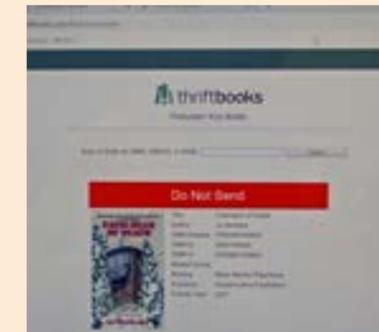
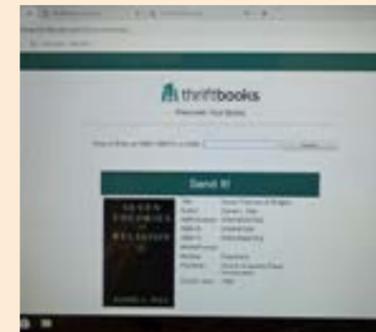
Library pages place Donation Bin contents on a cart, librarians select those they want for the Main Collection, then the cart is taken to the bookstore.



Books not selected for shelving are boxed and taken to Sorting, in Tech Services.



There, Friends volunteers scan barcodes or type ISBNs (International Standard Book Number) into a database at ThriftBooks, our primary wholesaler.



ThriftBooks tells us to "Ship It" or "Don't Ship It," depending upon whether they think they can sell it for us.

Books going to ThriftBooks are boxed for shipping. When 20 boxes are ready for shipment to Thrift, they are shipped at no charge to the Friends. Some of the better books rejected by Thrift are marked for the "**last chance sale**" and returned to the bookstore for the special sale.



Remainder go to secondary wholesaler Discover Books, who pays us by the pound. Discover picks up at the Library, again at no charge to Friends.

What happens to stuff that neither wholesaler wants? Books in bad condition are recycled, as are encyclopedias and proof/galley copies illegal to resell. VHS and cassette tapes are discarded-- no market anymore -- as is anything with a missing part.

So, keep on donating! You are supporting your fine Library, getting books and DVDs into new hands, and keeping a surprising amount of stuff out of the landfill.

Livermore Reads Together Event Calendar

Saturday, January 26, 1-4 p.m.

Student Robotics Fair

Students will showcase their robotics projects. Special presentation by the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute and Marine Advanced Technology Education Center.



February 1-28

Civic Center Library Art Gallery

Month-long exhibit in partnership with the Hispanic Heritage Center, featuring works by Daniel Camacho and the Las Positas College Art Club.



Saturday, February 2, 2 p.m.

Exploring the Great Migration with Tina Jones Williams and The Storytellers

The Great Migration was the relocation of more than six million African-Americans from the rural South to the cities of the North, Midwest and West from about 1916 to 1970.

Saturday, February 9, 11 a.m.

Movie Screening of *Spare Parts* (2015, PG-13)

Vine Cinema & Alehouse, 1722 First Street.



Sunday, February 10, 2 p.m.

Spare Parts Readers' Theater Presented by Livermore Shakespeare Festival



Saturday, February 16, 2 p.m.

Citizenship and Naturalization Information Session

Learn about naturalization eligibility, testing, and citizenship rights and responsibilities.



Wednesday, February 20, 7 p.m.

Meet Author Joshua Davis



Thursday, February 21, 7 p.m.

Poetry Reading by MK Chavez

Latinx writer MK Chavez is a recipient of a 2017 Pen Oakland Josephine Miles Award for poetry. She is co-director of the Berkeley Poetry Festival.



Saturday, February 23, 12 - 4 p.m.

Art Reception

Celebrate Mexican art and culture with Daniel Camacho and the Hispanic Heritage Center. Refreshments will be served.



Sunday, February 24, 2 p.m.

Los Panaderos Concert

Traditional Mexican folk music and dance collaboration from the San Francisco Bay Area.



Tuesday, February 26, 3 - 4:30 p.m.

Maker Program: BrushBots!

Springtown Branch Library,
998 Bluebell Drive.
For Kids of all ages!



Thursday, February 28, 6:30 p.m.

Books & Brews at Eight Bridges Brewery, 332 Earhart Way

Let's meet and chat about *Spare Parts*, and raise a glass to another eventful Livermore Reads Together!
For Kids of all ages!



Student Robotics Fair

On Saturday, January 26th, Livermore Library kicked off the 2019 Livermore Reads Together (LRT) program with a Student Robotics Fair. The Friends of the Livermore Library sponsors the LRT program. This year's LRT book selection, *Spare Parts*, is about students winning an underwater robotics competition in Santa Barbara sponsored by the Marine Advanced Technology Education (MATE) Center in Monterey. The Student Robotics Fair started with presentations by representatives from both the MATE Center and the Monterey Bay Aquarium Research Institute (MBARI) discussing both the annual underwater robotics competition and the use of underwater robotics in scientific research.

The first presenter was Jill Zande, the associate director and competition coordinator for the MATE Center. She started her presentation showing a short clip from the 2015 Hollywood movie adaptation of the book *Spare Parts*. She then went on to provide an overview of the MATE Remotely Operated Vehicle (ROV) competition and its history. The MATE ROV competition is run in partnership with the Marine Technology Society's (MTS) ROV Committee. The competition requires each team to develop an ROV and use it to accomplish a set of underwater tasks. In addition, each team must prepare technical reports and presentations to market their ROV as a "product" to simulate a real-world engineering project.

The MATE ROV competition began in 2001 and has been run every year growing larger with each successive competition. The events described in *Spare Parts* occurred during the 2004 competition. Each year the competition is held in a different location with a different theme. In 2018, the competition was held in Washington state. Sixty-five teams from nineteen countries participated. The main competition was fed by 36 separate regional competitions that included K-12, community col-

lege and university students. The competition is divided into four levels (Scout/Navigator/Ranger/Explorer) with the Scout level for beginners and the Explorer level for the advanced students. In 2019 the competition will take place between June 20th and 22nd in Kingsport, Tennessee with the theme of "Innovations for Inshore: Operations in Rivers, Lakes, and Dams."

The second presenter was Dr. George Matsumoto, a Senior Education & Research Specialist from MBARI in Moss Landing. Dr. Matsumoto gave an overview of the underwater robotics work of MBARI which operates two research vessels deploying large and sophisticated ROVs such as the 10,500-pound *Doc Ricketts*. His presentation featured numerous videos of how the instruments on the ROVs are used to sample and study different aspects of the marine environment both on the seabed and throughout the water column. He showed many examples of interesting sea life they have encountered in Monterey Bay.

After the presentations, the attendees moved to the library's Storytime Room where the students displayed their robotic projects. Schools which displayed their robots were:

Mare Island Technology Academy (MIT), Vallejo, CA
 Emma C. Smith Elementary, Livermore
 Chaboya Middle School, San Jose, CA
 Christensen Middle School, Livermore
 Boy Scouts (Robotics Merit Badge)
 Robot Garden, Livermore

-Mark Ptak

Learn more about MBARI! There is an open house at their Moss Landing facility on July 20th. www.mbari.org

For more information on MATE ROV: www.marinetech.org



Dr. George Matsumoto and Jill Zande



MIT Pink Panther team: Xareni Ortega, Paola Razo, Joseline Rivera and teacher/coach, Laurie Guest



FRC System Overload Robotics



Scouts Robotic Badge Exhibit



Hands on fun !



Robots of all colors and sizes!



LIBRARY SERVICES

Free Income Tax Help

Free income tax help is available every Thursday from **February 7th to April 11th**. Trained AARP volunteers will be able to answer questions and help prepare state and federal tax forms. Appointments are preferred but there is a very limited number of walk-in spots available on a first-come, first-served basis if time permits.

Appointments are 75 minutes long and are at 10 a.m., 11:15 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. Please call (925) 373-5505 to schedule an appointment.

To use this service, you must:

- Have been a full year CA resident during 2018 and have no out-of-state income
- Be willing to have the return e-filed
- If married, have your spouse sign the return during the appointment
- Have had no cancellation of debt in 2018 except personal credit card debt
- Be present when called

Please bring the following documents to your appointment:

- A copy of last year's tax return
- A W-2 from each employer
- All 1099 forms
- All forms indicating federal and state income tax paid
- Unemployment compensation statements
- Dependent care provider information
- Forms and receipts for itemizing deductions
- The cost of any stocks or bonds sold in 2018
- ID and Social Security cards for yourself and all dependents



Free Legal Help

Free legal help is available at the Civic Center Library and the Rincon Branch Library. An Alameda County Bar Association lawyer will provide a free 10-minute confidential consultation on a wide variety of issues: landlord-tenant disputes, probate matters, employment problems, and other general consumer issues. The consultation is to determine whether there is a legal problem and to provide guidance on how the legal problem might be solved and is not for in-depth legal analysis or advice. Please bring any papers or documents related to the legal issue.

Appointments can be made in advance. Patrons may also sign up for drop-in appointments at 5:30 p.m. on the day of the event to see if there are any no-shows.

Civic Center Library

4th Thursday of each month, 5:45-8:00 p.m.

(925) 373-5505 to book an appointment up to a week in advance.

Rincon Branch Library

2nd Monday of each month, 6:00-8:00 p.m.

(925) 373-5540 to book an appointment up to a week in advance.

The Lawyers in the Library Program is a countywide service coordinated by the Alameda County Law Library and staffed by volunteer attorneys. There is no specific income eligibility requirement to use this service.

Helpful Tips:

Each of the three library branches has a black and white photocopier available for public use. Photocopies cost \$0.15 per page for black and white photocopies.

The Civic Center Library offers a scanner for public use, located in the Copy Room. Scanning to email or USB is free.



“The more that you read, the more things you will know. The more that you learn, the more places you'll go.”

- Dr. Seuss, *I Can Read With My Eyes Shut!*

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 94551-2483



Communicate through Facebook

If you have a Facebook account and “like” our page, you will be subscribed to Friends updates. “Like” our page and “share” with your friends. You'll find us at www.facebook.com/FriendsOfTheLivermoreLibrary

Friends of the Livermore Public Library Membership Form

Membership Form

Return form to the Friends Bookstore in the Civic Center Library, or mail it to: Friends of the Livermore Library, PO Box 2483, Livermore, CA 94551-2483

Name _____

Address _____

City/State/Zip Code _____

Email _____

Phone (optional) _____

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

\$250 \$100 \$50 \$25 Other \$ _____

Please contact me about volunteer opportunities

Member Dues

- New
- Renewal

- \$10 Individual
- \$20 Family
- \$250 Lifetime

- Instant (Card given)

Contributions to the Friends of the Livermore Public Library are tax-deductible to the extent allowed by law.