

HERMOSA BEACH FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

NEWSLETTER

JULY/AUGUST/SEPTEMBER 2023

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BOOKSTORE MANAGER RETIREMENT NEWS

Sadly, the Friends of the Library will be losing a dedicated and special person as our Bookstore Manager, Sue de la Camp will be retiring from her position. She let us know that this was “not an easy decision because I have really enjoyed my years dealing with you, the books, and the customers, both sane and nuts. I will be moving to Alexandria, Virginia, close to my oldest daughter and her family.”

She promises that she will be around for the next few months so this is not quite good-bye yet. So don't miss this opportunity to come by and tell her what a wonderful job she has done for our community through her work with the Hermosa Friends of the Library.

Sue also mentioned that she already has the public library in her future hometown firmly in her sights. We all hope they get to know this incredible woman like we have and quickly learn to appreciate the amazing help they are about to receive!



Photo by Andrew Neuhart

HERMOSA LIBRARY GETS BOOST TO SUMMER PROGRAMMING

Our library has two ongoing weekly children's programs funded through the County Library System. Baby Band is for children ages 0 to 2 years and helps build cognitive and motor skills through songs. Smarty Pants Storytime teaches school readiness skills to children ages 2 – 5 years.

Now, through the generous donations of the HBFOL, the Hermosa Library library has been able to greatly expand their summer program offerings. For children ages 5 – 12, there are three different programs. Enjoy Ocean Adventure, an engaging program that teaches about sharks while taking a virtual a deep-sea diving expedition. Find out about how animals survive, what they eat and where they sleep through the Wonders of Wildlife. Then, just for fun, enjoy an action-packed afternoon filled with magic, illusions, juggling, balloon sculptures and puppetry.

A very special treat this year will be the End of Summer Teddy Bear Party with story-telling, art projects and refreshments (not restricted to Teddy Bears, stuffed animals of any type are allowed).

Teens (ages 13 – 17) will be able to participate in a Back to School Pencil Pouch program where a variety of supplies will be provided to create personalized pouches just in time for the start of school.

Two different adult programs are also being held. First, an art class will teach the technique of pointillism, first developed by French artists George Seurat and Paul Signac in the 1880s. Then celebrate National Coloring Book Day by rediscovering the simple relaxation and joy of coloring. All materials will be provided.

Please note that all these programs require advance registration which is available online at Visit.LACountyLibrary.org/Events or in person at the Hermosa Library.

Children's Services Librarian Genavieve Gualano reports, “Hosting these events also creates an amazing boost to our circulation.” In a win-win situation, not only do the participants get to enjoy fun and educational activities, but the library also benefits from higher lending numbers.

**Help support the Hermosa Beach Friends of the Library by shopping at our Bookstore
Book donations are also greatly appreciated**

HERMOSA BEACH



**FRIENDS of
the LIBRARY**

BOOK STORE

Location: 701 11th Place (behind Community Center)

HOURS

Mondays: 9am to 1pm • Fridays: 9am to 4pm

Saturday Sales - Third Saturday of the month – 10am to 1pm

INCREASED BOOK SALES

We are noticing a slow but steady increase in people finding our bookstore. Much of this is from our increased social media presence, but word of mouth is still one of the most effective marketing tools available. So please, don't hesitate to tell your friends, work colleagues, and school teachers about this amazing (but slightly hidden) resource!

Our book prices remain among the lowest in the South Bay. The bookstore is well organized, with fiction alphabetical by author's last name, and non-fiction sorted into clearly labeled categories. We feature a children's corner with books and DVDs; separately, we have shelves packed with adult themed movies on DVD, and a plethora of music CDs.

DONATIONS ALWAYS NEEDED

Time to clean out your bookcases and re-home books, CDs, DVDs, and games. We appreciate having large donations delivered directly to our bookstore. Bring donations during our regular open hours, Monday 9-1 and Friday 9-4. We have hand carts to help carry them in. We also can provide a donation receipt.

Since it appears that the sunshine is trying to return now's the time to swing by the bookstore to stock up on some good reads.



7 WAYS READING IMPROVES YOUR CHILD'S LIFE by Devon A. Corneal (ReadBrightly.com)

We all know that reading matters, right? But just how much it matters and how it can impact our kids may be surprising. It turns out that children receive a host of educational, cognitive, neurological, psychological, and emotional benefits from reading, benefits that extend throughout their lives.

Here are just a few ways that reading matters:

1. Reading improves parent-child relationships. The American Academy of Pediatrics encourages parents to start reading to their children in infancy not only to promote literacy, but also to improve their relationships with their kids. Reading together helps parents and kids connect and build strong bonds.
2. Reading improves concentration. Children learn concentration and discipline while reading or being read to. A squirming toddler eventually gains an ability to focus on longer and more complex stories. Reading is a fun way to help little kids sit still and listen, and I don't know a parent alive who wouldn't want that.
3. Reading builds neural pathways in the brain. Reading is exercise for your brain. It's not just that your brain processes words and meaning while looking at text, reading actually changes your brain's structure.
4. Reading teaches children about language. Reading teaches kids the building blocks of language, including cadence, vocabulary, structure, and word definitions. Children's ability to communicate grows as their reading exposure increases.
5. Reading can make you smarter. A study from 2013 suggests that reading to kids in an "interactive style" (asking open-ended questions and engaging the child in the story) can boost their IQ by up to six points.
6. Reading can make kids more empathetic. Going even further, reading complex fiction can increase empathy in both kids and adults. Because navigating social relationships is nearly impossible without the ability to recognize and understand other people's emotions, this is no small thing. The good news for all us Muggles is that even reading Harry Potter can trigger this effect. Turns out, Hogwarts teaches more than just magic.
7. Reading encourages creativity. Reading sparks the imagination, opening up a child's mind to new ideas and concepts. In the wake of concerns about a "creativity crisis" in children, it's reassuring to know that reading fosters ingenuity and inventiveness.

So the next time you're tempted to skip reading to your kids or let them wiggle out of finishing a book for school, don't! Make them stick with it. You'll be glad you did.

FREE RESOURCES FOR EMERGING ADULTS

For adults age 18 – 25, our LA County libraries offer a lot of helpful programs featuring online classes for in-demand skills and job interview help. Go to LACountyLibrary.org/Emerging-Adults to take advantage of this powerful resource.

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hbfolsocialmedia@gmail.com - you
might be featured on our next
newsletter!



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