



# FOCUS

The Newsletter of the  
Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library  
Volume 2020 Issue 4  
June 2020



Dick Piernot,  
FTOL President

Friends,

The novel Corona Virus Disease has impacted everyone and everything that we considered to be “normal” just a few months ago. Organizations large and small, public and private, domestic and international have made it clear “We are all in this together”. That is certainly true for the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library (FTOL), as we adjust to the closure of the Thousand Oaks and the Newbury Park libraries.

Though the libraries are closed, library services to the community have not ended. Online access to programs and information provided by the libraries continues and has been enhanced. E-books are available over the internet via the OverDrive (Libbey) application, and the “Virtual Library” application provides access to many other information resources. The aquarium and “the denizens of the deep” are still being cared for.

FTOL funds these and many other materials, programs and services (during “normal” times) primarily by selling donations from the public in our Bookshops and online to raise money. The closure of the libraries has meant the loss of revenue from our Bookshops and other in-library sales. Because donations are not

being accepted during the closure, the inventory for online sales is not increasing, and sales are decreasing. All of this means that FTOL is severely hampered in its ability to raise funds to support the Library.

There is no time-certain for FTOL to resume its “normal” processing of donations. It is not clear what the “new normal” for handling donations will be when the libraries reopen. FTOL volunteers are committed to supporting the Thousand Oaks Library and the Newbury Park Library going forward by whatever means we can. We hope that our members will remain equally committed to ensure that we keep our libraries awesome. We are all in this together. **NB: Effective May 27th, the GRB Library is receiving books checked out prior to the quarantine and offering curbside check-out.** Please see the library website for further updates.

Stay healthy and stay safe.

*Coming together is a beginning. Keeping together is progress. Working together is success.* —Henry Ford

*—Dick Piernot*

## FTOL Year-End Wrap

Yeah, the past few months of quarantine have been a bummer, but looking back on the FTOL fiscal 2019-2020, it was an amazing year of accomplishments! Here’s a brief recap.

- ◆ New signage for the TO Book Shop
- ◆ Dynamic new screen for FTOL announcements
- ◆ Terrific new publicity and community outreach through Kathy Leslie’s Facebook postings
- ◆ August 17—Excellent turnout for the Newbury Park Pop-Up Sale
- ◆ December 7—Huge crowd (lines at both doors) for the GRB Kids’ Overstock Book Sale (sold out every item)
- ◆ February 8—Broad community support for the GRB Book

## Shop Open House

- ◆ March 6—Standing room only for the showing of the film *The Biggest Little Farm* with guest speaker Director John Chester
- ◆ In spite of the daily book shops being shut down for the Coronavirus, VP Booksales Kate O’Brien’s sales teams have raised over \$130,000 through April

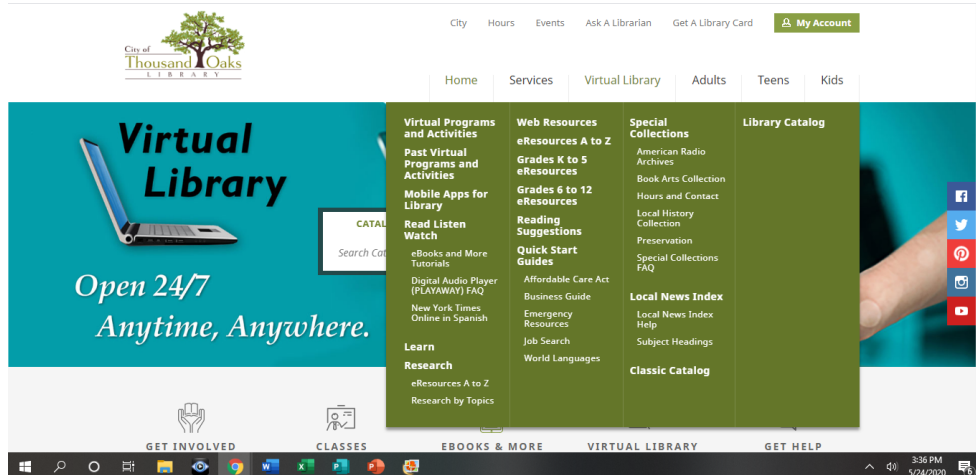
Your FTOL Board continues to meet via Zoom to explore new avenues for fundraising and other activities. We’ll be holding the June Board Meeting and Annual Meeting with Elections on June 8 via Zoom. If you’re interested in attending, watch the FTOL website at <http://ftol.org/> or contact Dick Piernot at [president@ftol.org](mailto:president@ftol.org) for log-in information.

Likewise, if you are interested in joining the Board, email Dick Piernot at [president@ftol.org](mailto:president@ftol.org). **We’d love to have you join us!**

**Running out of books during the quarantine?**

Check out the Thousand Oaks Library's

# Virtual Library!



## Featuring

**Flipster:** Read eMagazines on tablets or smartphones

**Freegal Music:** Free downloadable music with access to 15 million songs

**Kanopy:** Streaming eVideos, including over 26,000 documentaries, Great Courses, and feature films. For adults & kids.

**The New York Times and The Washington Post:** Unlimited access to news and feature articles

**OverDrive:** Downloadable eBooks, eAudiobooks, and eVideos for PC, MAC, smartphones, and tablets

**Press reader:** eNewspapers and eMagazines from around the world

### For Kids:

**BOOKFLIX:** Classic video storybooks paired with related nonfiction ebooks (grades k-5)

**Flipster:** digital magazines

**TUMBLE:** online collection of animated picture books, including non-fiction, read-alongs, and books in Spanish.



## New and Renewed Members

### Renewals

#### Sponsor

Arlene Bradley  
Claudia Morrison  
John Reid

#### Patron

Donna Blasius-Pitzler  
Louise Evenson

Steve & Susan Girard  
Jean & Larry Heimsoth  
Barbara Johnson  
John & Nancy Leggat  
John & Kent Rasmussen  
Peggy Rothring  
Christine Wells



A non-profit organization of library supporters dedicated to promoting and enhancing the

Thousand Oaks Library System

## 2019-2020 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

President — Dick Piernot  
First Vice President — Dan Ruth  
Membership VP — David Moutrie  
Book Sales VP — Kate O'Brien  
Past President — Geri Trail  
Treasurer — Ed Craven  
Secretary — Janet Doman  
Members-at-Large — Jessie Fowler, Kathy Leslie, Jane Meade, Caryl Piernot  
Online Book Sales Coordinator — Caryl Piernot  
Publicity Coordinator — Kathy Leslie  
Cultural Bus Tour Coordinator — Open FOCUS Editor — Dan Ruth  
History Book Discussion Leader — Jack Heller  
Friendly Book Discussion Leader — Sai Chandavarkar  
Library Advisors:  
Heather Cousin, Library Services Director  
Judi Bumstead, TO Library Volunteer Coordinator

## Board Meetings

Held at 10:30 a.m. the 2nd Monday of each month (except August) in the Tech Training Room of the Grant R Brimhall Library. Members are welcome to attend.

## Focus

A bimonthly newsletter focusing on the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library, the Thousand Oaks Library System and topics supporting literacy. Submit articles to: FOCUS Editor, Friends of the Library, 2331 Borchard Road, Newbury Park, CA 91320 or to the email address that follows: Editor: Dan Ruth  
Email: drutheditor@gmail.com  
Circulation: 450  
Friends' website: www.ftol.org

## Library Closures

GRB and Newbury Park Libraries are closed to walk-in traffic for the time being; however, the Grant R. Brimhall Library has begun curbside service. **Now you'll be able to return items you checked out prior to the closure in March and check out new items from the collection housed at the Brimhall Library!** To find out more and request the items you'd like, please visit the Thousand Oaks Library's website, <https://www.tolibrary.org/home>.

## JOIN THE BOARD!

Consider joining the Friends Board of Directors. All officer positions are up for election, as well as several appointed At Large and Coordinator posts. Interested? Contact Dick Piernot at [president@ftol.org](mailto:president@ftol.org).

### HISTORY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The History Book Discussion Group meets from 7:00 to 9:00 PM on the second Thursday of the month in the Goebel Adult Community Center, 1385 E. Janss Road (next to the GRB Library). For more information, contact Jack Heller at 805-341-7585 or jheller14@roadrunner .com. **Books are available for checkout.**

**Note: The libraries are currently closed due to the coronavirus, hence the group is currently not meeting in person.**

June 11 – *The South Vs. The South* by William W. Freehling

July 9 – *Last Call: The Rise and Fall of Prohibition* by Daniel Okrent

August 13 – *A Traveler's History of China* by Stephen G. Haw

September 10 – *This America: The Case for the Nation* by Jill LePore

October 8 – *Dereliction of Duty* by H. R. McMaster

November 12—*Reporter: A Memoir* by Seymour H. Hersh

December 10—*Napoleon* by Paul Johnson

### FRIENDLY BOOK DISCUSSION GROUP

The Friendly Book Discussion Group meets at 6:30 PM on the first Thursday of the month in the Grant R. Brimhall Library Technology Training Room. For more information, contact Sai Chandavarkar at 805-241-5205 or chitra.sai.chandavarkar@hotmail.com. **Books are available for checkout.**

**Note: The libraries are currently closed due to the coronavirus, hence the group is currently not meeting in person.**

June 4 – *Where the Crawdads Sing* by Delia Owens

July 2 – TBA by William Shakespeare

August 6 – *The Best American Short Stories 2019* by various authors

September 3 – *The Only Game in Town: Central Banks, Instability, and Avoiding the Next Collapse* by Mohamed A. El-Erian

November 5—*The New Silk Roads: The Present and Future of the World* by Peter Frankopan

December 3—Annual Year-End Event in the Marvin E. Smith Community Room



### FTOL Endowment Fund

In 1995 the Friends established an Endowment Fund as a perpetual resource for the purchase of items for the libraries. All monies deposited in the Fund are kept intact. Only the interest generated annually is used to make such purchases. By contributing to the Fund, you can give a gift to the community that keeps on giving. The Endowment Fund is administered by the Executive Board of the Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library, in accordance with the organization's bylaws. Once a year the interest earned on the Fund is gifted to the Thousand Oaks Library. Professional library staff members select and order the books and other items to be purchased with these funds. For more information, please contact Ed Craven, Treasurer, Phone: (805) 493-2024, [treasurer@ftol.org](mailto:treasurer@ftol.org). To download a contribution form, please go to <http://ftol.org/endowment>.

Renew and pay your dues online at

<http://www.ftol.org/membership>

OR

Complete and mail the application below

## Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library Membership Application

(Please print)

New member  Renewal  Gift membership

Today's date \_\_\_\_\_

Last name \_\_\_\_\_

First name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City \_\_\_\_\_ State \_\_\_\_\_

Zip \_\_\_\_\_ Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email address \_\_\_\_\_

*If you provide an email address, the Focus and renewal notices will be sent by email.*

### Membership Level:

Life \$500+  Sponsor \$100  Patron \$50

Booster \$25  Advocate \$10

I want to get involved! Please contact me about current Friends volunteer opportunities

### Make check payable and mail to:

Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library

Attn: Membership Vice-President

2331 Borchard Rd., Newbury Park CA 91320

***The Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library is a non-profit 501(c)(3) organization. Check to see if there is a matching gift program where you work.***

### Shop at Ralphs for the Friends!

Register your Ralphs card at [www.ralphs.com](http://www.ralphs.com) and select Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library as your organization for the Community Contribution Program. This will earn the Friends from 1% to 4% of your Ralphs purchases—at no additional cost to you!

All participants (past and new) must re-register every year at <http://www.ralphs.com>.



2331 Borchard Road  
Newbury Park, CA 91320  
Return Service Requested

Is it time to renew? Your membership expiration date is printed on your mailing label.

## Monetary Donations Welcome!

Owing to library closures resulting from the Coronavirus quarantine, the Thousand Oaks Library is currently unable to accept book and other material donations. As soon as we know the plan for reopening and resumption of used book sale operations, we will post this information on the Friends website.

**In the meantime . . .** the temporary suspension of our used book sales will have a significant impact on FTOL fundraising, which directly affects the library's programs and ongoing collections development. To offset this, we welcome your monetary donation.

The power to keep our library a strong, vibrant community center is in your hands. Your tax-deductible donation helps the Friends of the Library fund purchases of materials, technology, education, concerts, summer reading programs, and more.

Donations can be made online at <http://ftol.org/> . If you would prefer to donate by check, please write "Donation" on the message line of the check and send it to:

Friends of the Thousand Oaks Library  
Attn: FTOL Treasurer  
2331 Borchard Rd., Newbury Park CA 91320

If you have questions or need help regarding your donations, please contact Dick Piernot, FTOL President, at [president@ftol.org](mailto:president@ftol.org) .

**Thank you for your support!**

**THOUSAND OAKS LIBRARY SYSTEM**  
[www.toaks.org/library](http://www.toaks.org/library)

**Grant R. Brimhall Library**  
1401 E. Janss Road  
Thousand Oaks, CA 91362  
(805) 449-2660

**Newbury Park Branch Library**  
2331 Borchard Road  
Newbury Park, CA 91320  
(805) 498-2139

**Both library branches are currently CLOSED to walk-in traffic, though the GRB Library is taking returns and offering curbside check-out.**

**Please visit the library website for more information and status updates.**