



**Friends of the Carpinteria Library**  
5141 Carpinteria Avenue  
Carpinteria, CA 93013

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**JOIN US FOR**  
**OLD TOWN CARPINTERIA FIESTA**  
**Saturday, July 22 • 3:00 – 5:00 pm**  
**Friends of the Carpinteria Library Bookstore (at the park)**  
**5103 Carpinteria Avenue**

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# You Are Invited!

*It's our 50th Anniversary! Come help us celebrate all the Friends who have supported our library for 50 years!*

## Here's the Scoop!

**Sunday, September 17, 2017**

**2:00 – 4:00 PM**

**At the Carpinteria Library**

*(on the front & back porch)*

5141 Carpinteria Avenue

Carpinteria, CA 93013

*Free Ice Cream, Live Music,  
& Children's Activities!*



## Ice Cream Social

# Friends of the Carpinteria Library

## Summer 2017 Newsletter



## A Message from The Board

This has been a challenging spring for our library and the Friends of the Library, a time of transition and change. Successful as the Friends have been in raising money and securing grants, we find ourselves in the middle of rising costs and a public funding pinch. Thanks to huge efforts on the part of our county, especially 1st District Supervisor Das Williams, and city officials in both Santa Barbara and Carpinteria, we've escaped a devastating budget shortfall.

The Carpinteria City Council, always supportive of the library, but this year facing their own deficits, was sympathetic to our plight and voted to contribute an extra \$15k to their proposed \$35k contribution to our library. Among the many library supporters at the City Council meeting that night in June, there wasn't a dry eye when Mayor Fred Shaw proclaimed, "The most important building in any town is its library."

As well as budgetary challenges, our library has faced a changing relationship with the Santa Barbara Library, which for many years has administered the branches as if they were simply part of the main library. Like all cities across the country, Santa Barbara is facing shrinking resources and rising costs, and the City Council is demanding that the library trim its budget. The decision to suddenly double the administrative fee charged to the branch libraries was a painful awakening for us to the new perception of the branches: as a burden to the main library rather than a valued extension.

Our library doesn't want to become a clone of the main library. Each branch library seeks to nurture and reflect its specific community. Our staff members all work the front desk and know our regular patrons well. The Carpinteria Library is a busy hub in town, where the wise leadership of Tara O'Reilly set a welcoming professional tone for two decades. It is vital that we preserve that special role the library plays as a community center.

What's come out of these challenges are some promising developments. The branches – Goleta, Solvang, Buellton, Montecito, and Carpinteria – are unified in our desire for more voice in the future of our libraries. We are encouraged by the County Board of Supervisors' decision to hire a consultant to examine the present structure of contracting with the larger cities (Santa Barbara, Santa Maria, and Lompoc) to administer the smaller county branches and advise the board about alternatives. And finally, we look forward to working with the Carpinteria City Council in examining new sources of revenue, like a sales tax increase, to guarantee annual support of our library and our parks.

In its 50th year, the Friends of the Library board and committees have been more active than ever in reaching out to the whole community to increase awareness of our library's unique role. Please help us by renewing your membership and encouraging a friend or neighbor to do likewise!

Sincerely,

Gaby Edwards  
*Board Chair, Friends of the Carpinteria Library*

**Funding shortfall threatens library**

**Library looks to limp forward—this year**  
*City budget needs longterm fix*

**Beloved library staff cruelly dismissed**

**Community outraged by library firings**

**Librarians fired—unacceptable**

**Tell your electeds you love your library**

**For the love of libraries, books and good behavior**

**Trouble at the Libraries**

**Tough love at the library**  
*Budget crunch strains relationship between Carpinteria and SB Central libraries*

## The FUND For Santa Barbara Awards \$8,000 Grant

June 13 was an exciting evening for the Friends of the Carpinteria Library. The FUND for Santa Barbara honored 18 countywide organizations with grants for work that modeled themes of social justice and “change not charity”! The Friends received an \$8000 grant for Artesania para La Familia/Family Arts & Crafts weekend programming. The family friendly program featuring workshops and events designed by Suzanne Requejo to encourage and increase family involvement with their child’s academics combines art and literature into creative learning activities. It was the only program in Carpinteria to receive a grant.

The grant competition was very intense this year. Hundreds applied for the FUND Spring grant cycle but only 28 organizations were tapped for an interview and out of that number only 18 received a grant.

Requejo introduced the enthusiastic audience to the goals and benefits of offering an arts and literature program and thanked recently retired librarian Tara O’Reilly for her support. Maria Zamora, recent Carpinteria High School graduate and Junior Carpinterian of the Year, spoke about the importance of the library’s Homework Center programs that Requejo ran for 10 years. Zamora thanked Requejo and the Friends of the Library for providing programs that encourage learning after school, on weekends and during the summer that helped keep her on track with her studies. Zamora received a full scholarship to the University of San Francisco and will begin her studies in International Relations in the fall. She will be the first in her family to go to college. Numerous parents whose children have participated in Requejo’s program personally thanked her for nurturing their children’s talents over the years.

The Friends of the Library are planning to continue the Artesania para La Familia/Family Arts & Crafts programming. The first event scheduled for this summer is the 3rd Old Town Carpinteria Fiesta on Saturday, July 22, from 3 – 5pm at the Friends Bookstore (at the park) on Carpinteria Avenue .



*Santa Barbara City Councilmember Cathy Murillo, Maria Zamora, Suzanne Requejo, Maria Echeverria, Guadalupe Echeverria, and Rachel Saragosa, in front, Giselle and Crystal Echeverria with their artwork at The FUND for Santa Barbara Spring Grant Award ceremony on June 13th.*



*Representing Friends of the Carpinteria Library, Maria Zamora and Suzanne Requejo spoke at The FUND for Santa Barbara Spring Grant Awards ceremony at the Lobero Theater courtyard.*



*2016 MTD Art Contest 1st Place winner Jacqueline Guadian takes 1st Place again this year!*

## MTD Awards Go To Homework Center Kids

Meet Jacqueline Guadian, a second grader at Aliso and a member of the Carpinteria Library’s Homework Center. Last year, when Jaqueline was in First Grade, she won 1st place in the MTD (Metropolitan Transportation District) Art Contest. Jaqueline’s artwork has been hanging in the Friends Bookstore for a year, along with the art of other young artists Joshua Wazny, Lizbeth Alpizar who tied for 2nd place, and Juliana Ornelas who earned 3rd place honors in the 2016 competition. This year, Jaqueline took 1st Place again! Second place honors were awarded Sophia Thomas and 3rd Place in the popular art competition went to Crystal Echeverria. Look for Jaqueline, Sophia and Crystal’s artwork on MTD bus #20 and #21x, the Carpinteria bus lines. Their art will be displayed on the buses for one year and will be featured at the Friends Bookstore.

Unfortunately, the awards ceremony was cut short this year due to the dismissal of Homework Center Director, Suzanne Requejo, that occurred an hour and a half before the end-of-the-school-year party and the MTD Art Contest announcements.

## Highlights of May 17th Annual Event



*John Wullbrandt in discussion with Annual event speaker, Susan Morris*



*Wullbrandt's Little Free Library to remain in Carpinteria at the Community Garden*



*Friends enjoying the Morris presentation*

The Friends of the Library 50th Anniversary celebration was a gathering of library lovers who enjoyed a fine menu, a stimulating topic and most of all, lively conversations with old friends. Although the food was one highlight of the evening, the overflowing crowd packed the Carpinteria Community Church to hear historian Susan Morris trace the descendents of the San Nicolas Island people as made famous by Scott O’Dell’s novel *Island of the Blue Dolphins*, the poignant story of the Lone Woman of San Nicolas Island. An enthusiastic Q & A with Morris followed her slide presentation.

With an evening full of memories, special thanks go to Corktree Cellars who provided the food, Larry Nimmer for AV support, John Wullbrandt for his extraordinary Little Free Library creation that raised \$1350 for the Friends Summer Reading Program, Claudia Herczog for funding the captioning service by Debbie Chatfield for Friends with hearing loss, the incredible support of the Community Church staff especially Bob Banner and the energetic efforts of the Friends Events Committee members, Roxanne Coke, Ruthie Tremmel, Janey Cohen, Nola Nicklin, Linda Zimmerman, Jean Bailard, Kris McGuire, Leslye Miller, Patty Manuras, Gaby Edwards and Sherri Mendenhall.

A former Carpinterian who now lives in New York City purchased the winning raffle ticket for Wullbrandt’s Little Library. Hoping to keep the Little Library in Carpinteria, Wullbrandt arranged with the raffle winner to create a special piece of art in trade for the Little Library. Look for Wullbrandt’s Little Library to take up residence at the Community Garden in the fall.



***In Honor Of***  
***Gaby Edwards***  
Gwen Dawson

***In Memory Of***  
***Anne Borax***  
Jean Borax  
P.D. Borax & J.D. Donald

***Jolene Delisa***  
Kristin McGuire

The book donation numbers were strong for the month of June: 96 bags, 161 boxes and 306 loose items. We keep a sense of humor about the tally because sometimes we get so busy that we miss a bag or two. We appreciate all of your donations. Please try to insure that your donated items are in the best condition possible. Ask yourself, are your items torn, faded or moldy? Remember, if you don’t want it in your house, it’s probably safe to assume that no one else will want it in theirs. The important thing is to raise money for our library, and to do so we need quality items in our Bookstore.

It’s truly a bummer when we discover that some of the donated books have been damaged by weather after they’ve been dropped off when we are closed. We want to protect your donations from damage if possible. This being said, we ask that you please bring your book donations to the Bookstore during working hours. We’re open from 10am – 4pm Monday through Saturday, and during the summer we are also open 12 – 4pm on Sundays. It is always good to see you! Your books will best serve the library if they stay in great condition. So stop in, drop off your books and chat awhile.