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Among Friends Summer 2024



Dear Library Patrons,

After months of cloudy skies and rain, I now happily have a sense of summer arriving. As Henry David Thoreau said, "I was rich, if not in money, in sunny hours and summer days." And may I add that I also feel rich with free books from our library! In this issue of our quarterly newsletter, there are fresh details on the library's upcoming Summer Reading Program for adults and children. If you participate, you'll earn fun prizes donated by local businesses. Librarian Teresa Capasso remembers patron Leon Belli who passed away in late March. You are invited to experience the exciting June/July programs for all ages at the library. And finally, enjoy the interviews

My Very Best,

Diana

Diana Saint James

President, Friends of Larkspur Library



Leon Belli, Beloved Library Patron Remembered

by Librarian Teresa Capasso

Leon was a longtime patron and a voracious reader who brought in lists of books recommended by his brother, who was also an avid reader from what he told us. We placed many holds for him, and he always had a stack of books to pick up, so that he seemingly never ran out. He was a proud grandpa, and shared stories of taking care of his beloved granddaughter with his wife, and of his trips to Alaska to go fishing. He always greeted us with a smile, and it was a pleasure to see him and help him with his books. He was one of my favorite library patrons and I'll miss seeing him in the library.

Larkspur Library Announces

2024 Summer Reading Program

participating businesses below. Join in the fun!

Thank You to Our Summer Reading Program Donors for Their Generous Prize Donations!

(Click on logos to reach each website)



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Party to Welcome New Board Members









On May 5, we welcomed our new Board members, Jordan Jaffe, Huntly Klimchalk, Brianne Koch, and Lisa Levin. All are book lovers as well as parents of elementary and middle school-aged children who will provide a helpful perspective on a wide range of library users' needs. Lisa serves as the librarian for Mt. Tam Primary and is helped by parents Huntly and Brianne. Jordan and his children are regular users of Larkspur Library. Attending were Board members from Friends of Larkspur Library, Larkspur Library Board, The Commons Foundation, and Larkspur Library Foundation

Meet Two of Our New Board Members

Let's welcome two of our four new board members of Friends of Larkspur Library. Here is a chance to get to know them better — two at a time. The first two are Brianne Koch and Lisa Levin, each answering a few



Brianne Koch

FOLL: What neighborhood do you live in?

Brianne: Kentfield

FOLL: Your family?

Brianne: We have an 11 year old daughter, an 8 year old son.

FOLL: Pets?

Brianne: A very fluffy cat named Mae.

FOLL: What is your job?

Brianne: Since moving to Marin in 2017, I've taken a hiatus from working out of the home. Prior to that, I worked for the Drug Enforcement Administration as an Intelligence Analyst for about 11 years.

FOLL: Why work with the Friends? Why the library?

Brianne: I am so excited to help with Friends of Larkspur Library. Libraries are so important to our community, and provide information, entertainment, and a place of belonging.

FOLL: Where else do you volunteer/have you volunteered?

Pixie Park, and also volunteer with SFJazz.

FOLL: Who is the biggest user of the library in your family?

Brianne: I am! And I love searching the shelves for new reads for my kids.

FOLL: How do you find new books? For kids? You?

Brianne: GoodReads, my sisters and mom, and talking with librarians.

FOLL: What are some of your favorite libraries in your life? Where and why?

Brianne: My childhood library (Whitmore Library in Cottonwood Heights, Utah) because of all of the memories it holds. My mother and I used to spend hours there.

FOLL: Is Larkspur Library your children's first library?

Brianne: Yes! Larkspur Library was the first library we visited when we moved to Marin.

FOLL: What would be your dream feature(s) for the new library? Cafe? Art gallery?

Brianne: Local coffee shop, maker space/community space for kids and teens.



FOLL: What neighborhood do you live in?

Lisa: I live in Corte Madera now, but raised my children in Greenbrae for 18 years, and I grew up in Mill Valley.

FOLL: Your family?

Lisa: I have two grown children, Rebekah and Joshua. Rebekah is 27 years old and Joshua is 23 years old. My parents currently live in Greenbrae and moved back years ago to be near their children and grandchildren. I am divorced after 22 years of marriage and currently re-married to a wonderful man for five years.

FOLL: Pets?

Lisa: I love animals. I have a 2 year old dog, Stinson (yes after the beach--my happy place) who is sitting at my feet right now. He is actually a Facility Dog and comes to school with me 3 times a week and he spends his time having children read to him. He also gives Deep Pressure Therapy to my middle school students for anxiety. My dream was to always have a reading dog, and the past two years I have trained Stinson to be a reading dog. He also comes with me to several public libraries as well. Maybe our next stop will be the Larkspur Library.

FOLL: What is your job?

Lisa: I'm a Teacher Librarian at Mt. Tamalpais School (a private K-8 school in Mill Valley). I began my career as a teacher and went back to school when my kids were young to get my MLIS in Library and Information Science at SJSU. I graduated with my MLIS in 2010.

FOLL: Why work with the Friends? Why the library?

Lisa: I love libraries as you can imagine, and that is my job. I was approached by board member Dulcy Brainard for the position and it sounded very interesting and exciting with a new library, and I wanted to be a part of the new library. I always thought the Larkspur Library was very eclectic and quaint, but small and hard to get to.

FOLL: Where else do you volunteer/have you volunteered?

Lisa: I volunteer a lot. Probably too much. Before this, as a parent I volunteered at my kids' school doing everything from newsletters to being the Parent Association president. I volunteered coaching for Girls on the Run, an organization to encourage girls to run and move their bodies. For the past three years I volunteer at Rodef Sholom for the Bag Lunch Program at St. Vincent's, making bag lunches for those in need.

FOLL: Who is the biggest user of the library in your family?

Lisa: Me, of course, next would probably be my mom.

FOLL: How do you find new books? For kids? You?

Lisa: It's my job. I spend time reading journals and then checking the books out of the library before determining

FOLL: What are some of your favorite libraries in your life? Where and why?

Lisa: The Mill Valley Public Library was where I grew up, the Mill Valley Middle School Library was also my happy place too. Now I tend to spend more my time at the Corte Madera library because of the vicinity and size of the children's room, and it was easier to park when I took my children. Libraries in colleges were also my favorite places too: the USC library, The Doheny Library, is amazing and beautiful. I spent a lot of time there when visiting my daughter when she was in college. When I travel now, I want to start visiting different libraries. I plan on visiting a library in Chicago when I go in June to visit my son; I heard the architecture at the University of Chicago Library is something to see.

FOLL: What would be your dream feature(s) for the new library? Cafe? Art gallery?

Lisa: Why can't we have a little bit of both as a Cafe and art gallery?



Come see our FOLL Display in the Library!

Library Events Sponsored by Friends of Larkspur Library



Chair Yoga



Laundromat Libraries



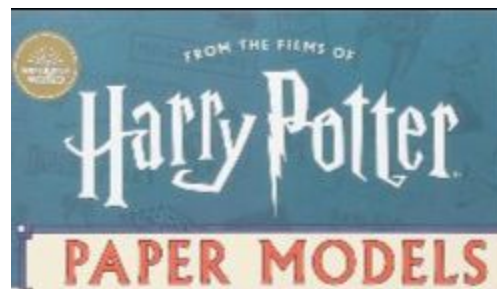
Lion Dancers



Bagpipers



Mariela Herrera



Harry Potter Teen Craft Workshop

Upcoming Larkspur Library Events
Made Possible by Your Donations
(click on picture for more information)



LARKSPUR LIBRARY

Sing and Stomp!

**Saturday, June 8
at 10:30AM**

**Sing, dance, jump and play with
musician Emily Bonn!**

**Designed for young kids and their families.
Sponsored by the Friends of the Larkspur Library.**

LARKSPUR LIBRARY 400 MAGNOLIA AVE LARKSPUR CA 94939 415-927-5005 WWW.LARKSPURLIBRARY.ORG



Kids Craft Workshop: Making Slime!

Tuesday, June 18, 4 PM



Coventry and Kaluza in Dolliver Park

Thursday, June 20, 11 AM



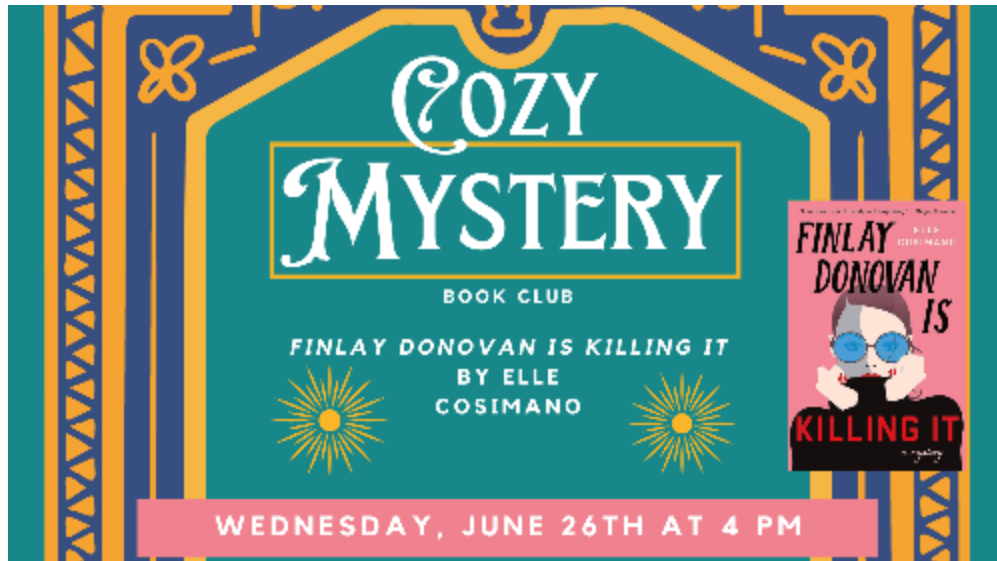
HENNA ART WORKSHOP
TUESDAY,
JUNE 25TH
2:00 PM

Dive into the world of intricate designs with our Henna Art Program for kids and teens! Henna artist Rachel Palacios talks about the rich cultural heritage of henna, its significance, and creates stunning designs on your hand!

Please RSVP to refdesk@cityoflarkspur.org or at the Library's main desk.

Henna Tattoo Art

Tuesday, June 25, 2 PM



COZY MYSTERY
BOOK CLUB

FINLAY DONOVAN IS KILLING IT
BY ELLE COSIMANO

WEDNESDAY, JUNE 26TH AT 4 PM

Cozy Mystery Book Club

Wednesday, June 26, 4 PM



Magician Mike Della Penna!

Thursday, June 27, 11 AM



Teen Video Game Day (Switch!)

Thursday, July 11, 3 PM



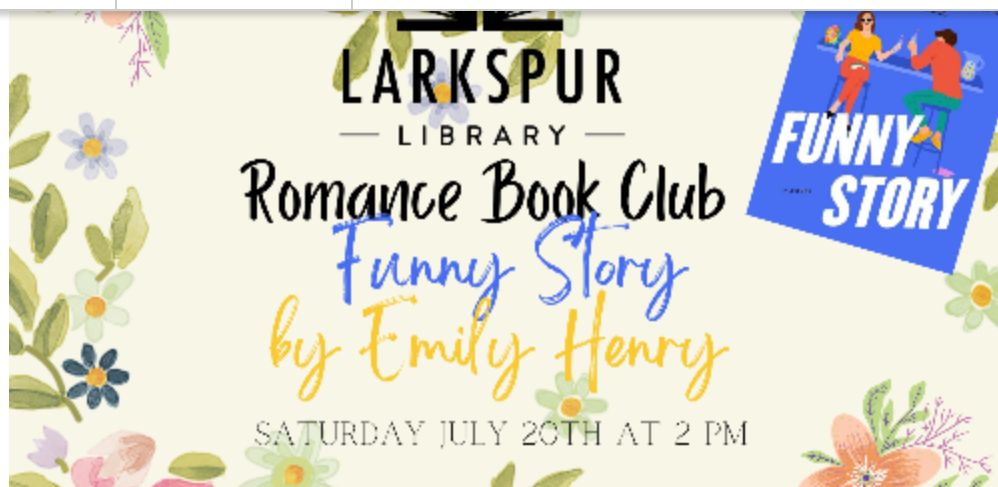
Art Day!

Saturday, July 13, 10 AM



Latch Hook Rug Craft

Tuesday, July 16, 4 PM



Romance Book Club
Saturday, July 20, 2 PM



Scratch Art
Tuesday, July 23, 4 PM



Teen AI Club

Friday, July 26, 2 PM

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Brianne Koch

Alice Kaufman

Lisa Levin

Dyan Pike, Vice President, Editor, *Among Friends*

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Mary Van Dyke, Secretary

Mission Statement

The Friends are a dedicated group of members who raise money for library programs, plan events, and work as ambassadors to the community for the Larkspur Library.

Friends of Larkspur Library are committed to supporting the library's programs, cultural events, books, and materials. We strive to instill the love of reading and the excitement of learning in library patrons of all ages.



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Friends of Larkspur Library

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