Spring 2020

Friends of the Library
Book Sale

March 27 & 28
9:30 to 5:00

March 26, 5:45 PM
FOL Annual Meeting

Preceding the Members Pre-Sale on March 26, you'll learn about recent FOL activities and actions of your FOL Board in a brief meeting from 5:45 to 6:00. Then the book sale will open for business. And all Members have first choice!

Not a member? Not a problem. Join at the door!
Behind the scenes at Common Grounds

Just days before the Grand Re-opening of the Library’s popular cafe and coffee shop, FOL had a chance to talk with Corrie McCarthy about the big changes that have been taking place behind that big orange drop cloth. Corrie has been the key go-to person during construction. And she’s been responsible for much of the new design, in addition to ordering cabinets, appliances, signage and coffee shop supplies. Corrie is that smiling face you see behind the counter teaching her students all the ins and outs of running a small business.

FOL: Corrie, beside being a jack-of-all-trades, what is your 9R title?
Corrie: “I am a Paraprofessional III, which means I can work with all students, no matter what their needs are. I lead and train my student ‘employees.’ Our coffee shop teaches students the basic work skills they’ll need to go out, apply for, and earn and maintain a job, including the importance of getting to work on time.”

FOL: Do you grade the kids during their time working for you?
Corrie: “Not exactly. But all of them earn a ‘work experience’ credit. And some will also earn math and science credits, depending on their abilities.”

FOL: And just what do your students do here at Common Grounds?
Corrie: “Well, we are all about hands-on learning. Everyone starts out as a busser, the kind of entry level position they might have in their first ‘real’ job. Then they could work up to being a cashier, taking orders, entering those into our computer, giving correct change, and serving customers. After that they learn skills needed to become a barista. Finally, some will graduate to be a lead barista. They will take inventory and even place orders with our suppliers.”

FOL: How do you operate the coffee shop in the summer when most of your “employees” are out of school?
Corrie: “Some of our students will have internships with us and receive a paycheck through DVR, the Department of Vocational Rehabilitation. Last year when we were under construction, I took several of my students on a field trip to Desert Sun, our coffee supplier. They were really eager to go and proved to me that they really do want to learn. By the way, you might tell your readers that they will be able to buy bags of Desert Sun coffees right here at Common Grounds. And of course we will be offering the popular Bread sandwiches and baked goods.”

FOL: Did your students play any role in the renovation here?
Corrie: “You mean besides being super excited about the whole project? Many of them unpacked our supplies and helped organize everything in our new cabinets. (We have actual cabinets now!) The students will be making smoothies soon, because we now have our own freezer and ice machine. And I’m going to encourage them to make up new drinks, as well as deciding our daily specials.”

FOL: I see you also have your own water source and sink, even a sanitizer dishwasher. I can imagine you found yourself doing all kinds of things you never dreamed of before.
Corrie: “That’s for sure! I learned how to talk with plumbers and electricians. And of course found out the many requirements of health code compliance.”

FOL: Corrie, what have you enjoyed most about the Common Grounds transformation project?
Corrie: "The overwhelming support of the community!! And seeing just how much our community cares about Common Grounds and our students." (A little teary-eyed here.) "And the way our Community has come together to support our little coffee shop/cafe to make a real difference in the lives of our students. It’s been an awesome experience!"
Meet LIBBY!

LIBBY lets your smart phone access your library’s collection of eBooks and audiobooks instantly with just a few taps. Read, listen or try a picture book with read-along audio.

How can you meet LIBBY?
1. Find and install the LIBBY app.
2. Sign in with your library card.
3. Browse and sample any title with a tap.
4. Borrow and open your material.
   - To find your loans, click Shelf>Loans.
5. Tap Open Book or Open Audiobook to read or listen.
6. Tap Manage Loan to see options to Renew or Return.

Sign up today and find out what LIBBY can do for you!

Thank you to all Storage Angels who are helping us pay rent for our all-important book storage facility!!!

And a big Thanks So Much to our newest Storage Angels: Olin Kane and the RB Boebel Family Trust! This is an on-going monthly expense, so we are always looking for more generous folks who’d like to help us out.
The more books we can store, the more books we can sell.
We are delighted to announce that bestselling author Lisa See, novelist and memoirist, will be our guest and keynote speaker at our 2020 Literary Festival on April 16th.

Ms. See is recognized as one of the leading authorities on Chinese culture. She calls herself a "research fiend" and has made several trips to remote areas of China to listen to locals tell their stories. Characters in her many books reflect her passion for the lost and forgotten stories, even those that have been deliberately covered up.

See’s own family history has been a background source for many of her beloved books. (Read her non-fiction On Gold Mountain.) See’s great-grandfather, Fong See, came to America with many of his countrymen to work on the transcontinental railroad. His wife remained in China and earned money to support their family by carrying people on her back from village to village.

See believes that “In our hearts, we all share in the immigrant experience. Everybody has come to this country from somewhere else. Immigration is a very, very American experience.”

Jodi Picoult states that See “exceeds at mining the intersection of family, friendship and history.” Sue Monk Kidd has said that “no one writes about female friendship, the dark and the light of it, with more insight and depth than Lisa See.”
**Bookclub Discussions**

Bring a friend and enjoy a lively discussion of Lisa See’s latest novel, *The Island of Sea Women*. Thirty copies of this book will be available **free** starting **March 12**, while supplies last.

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**FREE Community Reception with Keynote Speaker LISA SEE**

Beer, wine and appetizers—plenty of time to mingle before our guest author's presentation. Maria’s Bookshop will be selling all of Lisa See’s books in the lobby afterward and she will be happy to sign them.

**Thursday April 16, 5:30 pm**

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**Local Authors Showcase**

It's like “speed dating” for book lovers! Thirteen of your favorite Durango authors will take turns sitting at each table for a six-minute chat about their work. Beer, wine and light snacks. All books available on site.

**This event $10/person**

*Limited to 90 participants - get your ticket now!*

*Purchase tickets at Library front desk or Lela’s Place Bookstore in the lobby (Cash or Check Only)*

**Saturday April 18**

**3:30 to 5:30 pm**

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Pick up your limited-edition 2020 Literary Festival Collectible Book Mark at the Library while supplies last!
Sandy Says . . .

The Durango Public Library is going through some major transitions. One of our top priorities is our strategic plan update. We released a survey on March 4th on the City’s Virtual City Hall site: https://www.durangogov.org/virtualcityhall.

Please take a moment to fill out the survey so that we can learn more about your needs and how the Library can best serve you. We will also have printed copies for you to complete at the Library, as well as a printed survey designed for children.

Our other TOP priority is our new Integrated Library System (ILS). As you may have read over the last year – or even experienced it yourself – our current ILS (the backbone of our entire system) has been failing. The ILS handles our patron information, our entire catalog of materials, checking items in and out, and more. Thanks to the Durango City Council and the Durango City Manager’s Office, project funds that were not being used were re-allocated to cover the costs of migrating to a new ILS. Staff is currently undergoing training behind the scenes to prepare for the new software. The week of April 27 we will move from the old system to the new. We will ensure that nothing is due during that week because we will not be able to check anything back in! Yet you will be able to check items out; we will just upload the information once the migration takes place. We will be closed on Thursday April 30th for migration day! We need to ensure that everything is working properly and that our data transferred successfully, hence the need to be closed. Our catalog will be offline until the migration is complete.

We are very excited for the changes ahead. We are currently making some adjustments to our loan policies, how our catalog will look, and more (like being able to check out e-books & e-audio right from the catalog!). 2020 looks to be a great year for the Durango Public Library and our customers!

-Sandy Irwin
Director, Durango Public Library

Advisory Board To Host Survey Table at Literary Fest

The Library Advisory Board (LAB), comprised of city and county appointees, will have an information and survey table at the Literary Fest on April 16. Festival attendees are invited to stop by for information about a survey designed to identify the community’s needs related to the library. Patrons’ opinions on extended hours and Sunday openings will be important in guiding City Council on library personnel needs.

Let us know what you think!
Do you know someone who contributes extraordinary time and service to the library? If so, the Library Advisory Board (LAB) is seeking nominations for its annual Library Community Champion award. The award series, begun in 2017, honors especially distinctive volunteer service to the library. A number of Friends of the Library members have been honorees, including last year’s winners, Nancy Peake and Maile Kane. If you would like to nominate someone, visit the library website at https://www.durangogov.org/CivicAlerts.aspx?AID=2024 for a nomination form, or ask one of the front desk staff for a copy.

**Submit your nomination for the 2020 Library Community Champion!**

**Recognize a community member who has supported the Durango Public Library!**

**Deadline: May 29, 2020**

Visit durangogov.org/library for the nomination form.

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**An Easy Way to Shop And Help Your Library At The Same Time!**

If you have a City Market value card, the Community Rewards Program will donate to the Friends every time you buy groceries!

Start by visiting citymarketcommunityrewards.com and click on the **ENROLL** button. Then sign in or create an account. Finally, select Friends of the Durango Public Library as the organization you wish to support.

(A reminder: you need to re-enroll your card each year.)

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**We Love Your Donations!**

You can help us maximize their value to the Library by following these guidelines:

- Limit your donations to 5 boxes at a time except on Tuesdays and Fridays.
- On Tuesdays and Fridays our volunteer book sorters are hard at work and can handle larger donations with minimal disruption to regular library operations.
- We cannot accept magazines, outdated medical books, encyclopedias, textbooks, VHS or cassette tapes.
- We will not take books in poor condition, i.e. water-stained, dirty, moldy, torn or falling apart.

*If you wouldn't buy it, we can't sell it!*
Learn more about the new Literary Garden at the Literary Festival

For the first time, the Durango Botanical Society will have an information table at the upcoming Literary Festival, April 16. DBS volunteers will display a new rendering of their next, exciting garden project—the Literary Garden. The Literary Garden will feature water-wise plantings, trees, and art with literary themes. Authors, books and poems from many of our favorite writers will connect the garden with the library reflecting the strong partnership between DBS and the Durango Public Library. Stop by their table and learn more about this new garden and other exciting plans DBS volunteers have for making our gardens and our library an even more compelling destination for citizens and visitors.

To learn more, visit durangobotanicgardens.org

By April 1, 2020, every home will receive an invitation to participate in the 2020 Census. You will have three options for responding:

- Online.
- By phone.
- By mail.

In mid-March, households will begin receiving official Census Bureau mail with detailed information on how to respond to the 2020 Census. If you do not receive mail at your home (for example, you use a PO Box), you still need to respond to the Census. Please visit https://2020census.gov for more information. Remember, a full count affects the resources allocated to our community, our Congressional Representation, and more.

Check out our new banner at the Spring Book Sale!

See you March 27 and 28 from 9:30-5.

And don’t forget the Members-Only Pre-Sale March 26, 5:45 to 8 pm!