Letter from the President

Welcome to the first quarterly issue of The Next Chapter, the reimagined newsletter of the Friends of the Saratoga Libraries. Publishing a quarterly newsletter, to be supplemented by informative and timely emails, is just one of the ways the FSL board is planning to deliver fun and useful information to our volunteers, members, library patrons, and Book-Go-Round customers. We have more ideas in store, from brown bag lunches and training sessions with our volunteers, to holding our book club, Friends Sharing Books, regularly at the library.

July marked the beginning of a new fiscal year, in which we welcomed Jane Lin-Li and Kristi Oberhauser to our board, and gave our thanks to Liz Guy and Alice Patrick, who completed their board terms and will continue to hold invaluable positions within the organization.

We granted $150,000 to the library, and will soon see work begin on a permanent shade structure over the patio behind the Café Bookstore, a special project which the Friends funded in 2022–2023. We’re excited to see the patio get lots of use in the coming months. We hosted Friends Sharing Books there in July, and the library will kick off its 20th anniversary celebration of the renovated building on the patio, September 23, beginning at 10:00 a.m. Please join us, and stay for a day of activities, music, and food organized by the library.

With recent highs have come lows, and we were saddened by the loss of long-time Friend and volunteer, Cathy Foscato, this past June. As we work to make a place for the Friends on the library patio, we will use this space to honor Cathy’s memory with permanent recognition of her importance to the library and the Friends, and of the role our work played deeply in her life. Cathy joined the Friends in 1986, and held roles as president and program chair, before eventually becoming the sorting room manager. She served on the Saratoga Library Commission as library building renovations were being considered, and participated in architectural research and information gathering.

A few years ago, when I began looking at Friends’ work beyond the Book-Go-Round, I was lucky to shadow Cathy in a sorting session. Impressed by her skills, knowledge, and conversational abilities, I confessed that I likely couldn’t keep up as a sorter, but the interaction set a baseline for my understanding of our small business, and the fellowship among us. Today, I am honored to be president of the Friends, and look forward to the work we’ll accomplish together in support of our library.

Sincerely,
Jennifer Van Dalsen
**Donating Books**

Want to donate your books? You’ve come to the right place. The Friends of the Saratoga Libraries sells your donated books and passes along 100% of the proceeds to the Saratoga Library to enhance library service. The Friends sells the books at the Book-Go-Round, our store in downtown Saratoga at the corner of Oak Street and Saratoga Sunnyvale Road, and at the Saratoga Library Cafe. But did you know those books don’t go directly to the shelves at the store? A donation dropped off at the Book-Go-Round must be transported to the Saratoga Library on Fruitvale Avenue, a short drive from the Book-Go-Round, before it can be sold. The reason for this is that our volunteers must sort the books into appropriate categories, and then research and price them, and the place this happens is the Friends sorting room in the main library.

With that as a brief backdrop of the process, we can use your help. You can still bring your donation to the Book-Go-Round if that works best for you; however, it would be a big help if you dropped them off directly at the Saratoga Library. There are drop-off slots both outside the library and inside the library to donate your books. You can also ask a librarian to lend you a cart to move larger donations to the sorting room. This would help us get your donations on the shelves quicker and allow us to better utilize space at the Book-Go-Round. Your donations are very much appreciated no matter where you decide to donate them.

To find out more about donating books please go to our website [HERE](#).

Thank you for your consideration and keep those book donations coming.

---

**Saratoga Movie Nights**

Saratoga Movie Nights are the perfect way to spend a summer evening with your family. The Friends of the Saratoga Libraries Community Outreach Team has attended the June 16 League of Super Pets and the July 21 Wall-E event. We have so much fun providing movie themed crafts for the kids and meeting with our community to tell them about FSL and the Book-Go-Round. Please come out and see us on August 18 for Inside Out. Pre-Movie Activities start at 7:00 p.m. We hope to see you at Quito Park.

*Beth and Annie provide crafts and activities for the movie nights at Quito Park.*
**Patio Shade**
The City of Saratoga has approved the permits for a new shade structure for the library patio. We hope to receive the shade from the manufacturer soon. The Friends of the Saratoga Libraries has generously donated the funds for the new shade.

**Summer Reading Update**
Registration for this year’s Summer Reading Program closes July 31! Continue logging books and complete the program by August 31. Pick up your completion rewards at the library anytime in August. As of July 15, we have 1,130 participants from the Saratoga Library with 4,201 books completed!

**June Library Programs**
In June, we presented 69 programs with 3,281 attendees. Many of these programs were generously funded by the Friends. Activities included: watercolor workshops, Happy Birds, Coding classes, Crafts, a puppet show, and more!

**Saratoga Library and Community Engagement Commission**
Celebrate Saratoga’s diversity, one story at a time. See the flyer for details.

---

**UPCOMING LIBRARY EVENTS**

**Sunday, August 6 at 2 p.m.**

**Behind Barbed Wire**
During WWII Yukio Shimomura was born in San Francisco and was in grade school when World War II started. His family was incarcerated and interned to a camp in San Bruno, California & the camp near Delta, Utah. Hear about his family’s experience during WWII under Executive Order 9066 and view striking photographs.

**Tuesday, August 8 at 7 p.m.**

**Travel Program: Sri Lanka: Land of Serendipity**
Sri Lanka hosts bountiful wildlife, including elephants, buffalo, monkeys, leopards, and various bird and reptile species; has 8 designated UNESCO World Heritage Sites; offers spicy curries and endless cups of tea; and is home to the world’s friendliest people.

Come explore this multicultural, tropical island nation with photographer and musician David Couzens as he shares his 20-day independent journey.

**Tuesday, August 15 at 5 p.m.**

**The Impact of Technology on School & College Planning**
Join us for a webinar geared towards teens and their families to prepare for the new school year:
- The SAT is going completely digital. How will this impact you?
- What is the role of ChatGPT and other AI in college admissions?
- Which classes and extracurriculars are important during high school?
- Why is Personality the new emphasis in college applications?

This program is conducted through Zoom. Please sign up [HERE](#) with your email to receive the Zoom login link the day before the program.

---

**Saratoga Library News and Events**

Continued on back page
The Book-Go-Round is now open late every Friday, 5:00 – 7:30 p.m.

Recognizing there is a great need for mental health services -- and hearing the difficulty many are facing in accessing services – the Health System, National Alliance on Mental Illness (NAMI), Santa Clara and Bay Area Legal Aid (Bay Legal) developed a presentation to educate our community about their right to access medically necessary mental health care. The 30-minute presentation explains how common mental health conditions are and how to recognize signs and symptoms. It provides information on rights to mental health care, steps and resources to access care, and what to do if you encounter problems. Handouts with tips and resources will be provided.

**Upcoming Events**

**July 29 and 30**
**Paperback Book Sale**

**August 18**
**Summer Movie Night: Inside Out**

**September 14**
**Friends Sharing Books**

**September 23**
**Library 20th Anniversary Celebration**

**October 15 to 21**
**18th Annual National Friends of Libraries Week**

**October 28 and 29**
**Paperback Book Sale**

**November 24**
**Good As New Sale**

**Saturday, September 9, 1 to 2 p.m.**
**Opioid Overdose Prevention**

The Santa Clara County Library District, in partnership with the Santa Clara County Behavioral Health Services Department, is proud to offer training for our community members about how to recognize an opioid overdose and how to safely administer the nasal spray Naloxone (commonly known as Narcan).

In addition to this critical information, participants who complete the training will be given a free limited number of Naloxone dosages (while supplies last). Sign up [HERE](#) to secure a spot.