

**Board President**  
**NANCI MORRISON**



As many have already stated, it is hard to believe a whole year has passed and the Library is still not open for inside patrons.

As you know, the Friends for 2020 had to cancel ALL our book sales as well as our annual meeting. We will be having our 2021 annual meeting via Zoom this year on Sunday, April 25th at 2 pm. We are thrilled to announce that acclaimed memoirist, novelist, and humorist Wade Rouse will be our guest speaker. We also will be able to have a short question and answer period at the end of his talk. Registration is available on our website.

The Friends board continues to meet monthly. Our outstanding bookselling team, Ginger Semple and Richard Ellis, had \$9088 in online sales from 4/1/20-2/28/21! The fabulous events team of Gary Maehara, Rosemary Flaherty, and Michael Hirschbein arranged a Silent Auction fundraiser which ran 3/15-3/21. We received the following grants: Anderson Children's Foundation \$11,500, US Bank \$5000, \$2500 Grace Spearman Foundation. We had a Fundraiser at Blaze Pizza on 6/3/20 and we received over \$300 just by having diners purchase and enjoy a delicious lunch.

Listed below is a partial list of what we have done for the Library once COVID-19 hit. We could not do this without YOU! Your generous donations are the reason we are able to provide such strong support to the Library.

\*The Friends committed \$15,000 to cover the cost of the Summer Reading Program which had over 800 participants and done virtually! We also committed \$2500 to cover virtual programming supplies, i.e., Macbook laptop and microphone.

\*We also approved \$5000 to cover the monthly craft kits for adults, teens, and children.

\*The Friends continue to support the Koi pond maintenance.

\*The book budget from the City was cut by \$111,000. The Friends committed \$84,000.

\*The Friends also approved \$5,000 for advertising, \$10,000 to continue the Career Online High School for another year. There are now 10 graduates and six active students.

Your donations are needed and very much appreciated during these especially challenging times. Once again, THANK YOU!

Hope to see you all at the Zoom Annual Meeting on 4/25/21.

**Director of Library Services**  
**JEANNIE KAYS**

**One Year Covid-versary**



One year ago, the library shut down with an uncertain reopen date. As I sit here reviewing last year's article, it amazes me that we thought we might reopen in April or May 2020. What a surprise at how long this has gone on, and how it has affected our lives.

Our pickup service, Library-A-Go-Go continues to give patrons access to library materials and craft kits. I want to shout from the rooftop to say how proud I am of my employees. They have learned new skills, taken on new roles, and stepped up to make it happen, whatever "it" might be. We created new duties, such as "Runner," "Phones," and "Puller." I guess all those years working at McDonald's in high school and college helped me in my library career after all. Our lobby feel more like a fast food drive-thru where we work to provide speedy service with a smile (under our Masks). Be sure to check out our YouTube Channel that includes craft instructional videos, cooking videos, job searching tutorials, and stories in English and Spanish. We have over 100 videos!

We are even conducting a reading program for children ages 4-12. In-N-Out Cover to Cover Club runs through April 17.



**Library-A-Go Service**  
**Library Assistant Yrene Navarro**

## Our Covidious Year Treasurer's Report by Jay Dunaway

### Hello Everyone!

It seems there's Optimism in the air – along with gorgeous weather– most likely due to having apparently turned an important corner in the battle against the Covid-19 virus. The prospect of Life returning to something “as normal” in the not-too-distant future can't help but relieve and cheer the psyche. I know I'll be enormously glad to connect with my Library and Friends' colleagues again.



Perhaps most impressive about our year of sequestration – our “Virtual Community mode” – was the support The Friends continued to receive from members who realized that, just because the building might be closed to the public, our Library continued to function even when faced with drastic budget cuts from City Hall. As a result, our mail reflected a much larger percentage of additional “In Memory of Donations” alongside Member renewals that helped keep us afloat. Such civic-mindedness in the face of personal loss embodies humanity at its best – transmuting today's painful reckonings into our community's brighter tomorrow.

As a result, The Friends are pleased to announce that you'll find our Library's Collection refreshed with \$25,000 worth of new e-book offerings, \$24,000 of new HOT OFF THE PRESS arrivals, \$20,000 in new Fiction and Non-Fiction titles, \$5000 each for new Youth Books and Youth DVD's, \$3000 of new Young Adult inventory (not counting the new, hip furniture for the Teen Zone), \$2000 in new Music CD's and \$1000 of new Blu-Ray offerings for everyone to enjoy!

Imagine all that “New Stuff” available to adults and kids for FREE!

Also impressive during the past year of isolation have been Library Director Jeannie Kays and her remaining marvelous staff, rallying to stay connected to the community with creative virtual educational programming. Young Adult Librarian Sean Corbin's “Teen Piñata!” proved surprisingly successful and a Children's “Story Time” reading by Youth Librarian Nancy Valdivia a few weeks ago garnered 1400 views! ... And, the innovative methods as LIBRARY-A-GO-GO that kept actual books in the reader's actual hands. The only thing missing in that effort were roller-skating Librarians delivering books directly to your car!

Kudos to everyone for their grit & creativity in the face of truly unique adversity.

I also hope many of you have been stopping by periodically to view the Library Lobby's ever-changing window displays, which have recently featured homages to Frieda Kahlo, Ruth Bader Ginsberg, Black History month, magically lucky Green Books (for St. Patrick's, of course), and– currently – many of the items being offered during The Friends' Fundraising Auction.

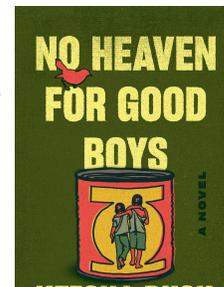
Keep the goodness coming, Ladies & Gents!  
And THANKS again.

## Natalie Portman is 2021 National Library Week honorary chair

Actress, author and activist Natalie Portman is lending her star power to shine a spotlight on our nation's libraries as the honorary chair of National Library Week 2021. She's helping highlight the essential role libraries, librarians and library workers play in serving their communities. A lifelong fan of books, she shares the books she's reading on her Instagram feed, as part of Natalie Portman's Book Club, using the hashtag #whatnatreads. Natalie Portman's “Fables” is her debut picture book.

### BOOK REVIEWS

Shortest Book Review Ever: Read this book! Keisha Bush's debut novel, *No Heaven for Good Boys*, is set in Senegal and tells the story of Ibrahimah, a young boy who is sent away to live with a religious leader to study and learn. What the families don't know when they send their sons away is the way the young Talibé are treated and forced to live. You won't want to put down this book; but, at the same time, you are afraid to learn what tragedies happen next.–Jeannie Kay



*The Giver of Stars* by JoJo Moyes is a historical novel set during Depression era Kentucky. It is the story of a group of extraordinary, independent women who became the Mounted Librarians of Kentucky, a program started by Eleanor Roosevelt to deliver books to the isolated families living in the Appalachian mountains. The story highlights the importance of books and human connection delivered by a group of gutsy, resilient women who carried on despite numerous challenges and horrible weather. I found this book to be an interesting, well written story that is a rewarding page turner. –Rosemary Flaherty

*Sheldon Siegel's twelve legal thrillers* is a must for anyone who's lived in San Francisco in the 1990s. Rich character development and lots of references to some memorable eateries around town. I found this on Kindle when our Library was totally shut. Only in two novels did I figure out who did it. Look for Mikey Daley/Rosie Fernandez. Sheldon is a S.F. Library Literary Laureate. Jonathan Goldman

### *If Beale Street Could Talk* by James Baldwin

A story about a black man arrested and jailed while innocent, the white police officer who put him there and the two families trying to get him out. A stark, riveting display of justice for African Americans coming from a poor neighborhood. –Kathy Weyer

### *Save Me The Plums*

A memoir by Ruth Reichl, the Editor in Chief of *Gourmet Magazine* about the dog-eat-dog world of magazine publishing and attempting to have an exciting profession and raise a family at the same time. Comes with recipes! –Kathy Weyer

**FRIENDS ANNUAL LIBRARY MEETING  
MOVED online to  
SUNDAY, APRIL 25 @ 2 p.m.**

## Annual Meeting Featured Speaker

### Author Wade Rouse

WADE ROUSE is the featured speaker at this year's Friends of the Palm Springs Library Annual Meeting, happening Sunday, April 25, 2021 at 2:00 p.m. via Zoom.

Wade Rouse is the internationally bestselling author of 11 books, which have been translated into nearly 20 languages. Wade chose his grandmother's name, Viola Shipman, as a pen name to honor the woman whose heirlooms and family stories inspire his fiction.

Wade's novels include *The Charm Bracelet*, a 2017 Michigan Notable Book of the Year; *The Hope Chest*; and *The Recipe Box*. His new book, *The Clover Girls* is available May 18, 2021. "My novels are a tribute to my Ozarks grandma, Viola Shipman. The jangling of her charm bracelet was as ever-present as the call of the whippoorwill, the scent of her hope chest as vivid as cedars after a spring rain, and her burnished wood recipe box stuffed with family recipes that still make my mouth water." Registration for this free event and a link to access the program are on the Friends' website.



## Book Bag Sales

Christine MacCalla and Laura Miller report that this project has brought in \$300 so far for the Friends in the absence of our Book Sales at the Frey Building.

Next time you drop by the library, check out the \$5 Mystery book bags in the window or (weather permitting) on the outside table. Labeled by theme, we offer books of fiction, biography, cooking, travel, dogs, and history, among others. AND, there are collections of CDs and DVDs. Just tap on the window and point to purchase a bag of up to ten books. You can use those "book bucks" you earned during summer reading. A great deal for you and the library!

## ANNUAL MEETING HISTORY

Bob Trogman, Board Member suggested having a unique, but worthy presentation by the Crazy Horse Memorial for the 2008 annual meeting. The Board wasn't sure that it was something of interest. The local Indian Council wouldn't support either. In spite of that it was advertised and the result produced the largest annual meeting ever. **A mere 208 plus.**



## ONLINE AUCTION A SUCCESS

### Gary Maehara

The Friends of the Palm Springs Library first online auction successfully concluded on March 21. Baskets of aroma therapy, unique books, chocolates, a handmade quilt, mid-century modern dishes, Japanese dishes, and other themed baskets went to highest bidders. A very favored item was sponsorship of our popular Summer Reading Program. Nearly 40 auction items were featured, and with some last minute bidding, we were within a couple hundred dollars of our \$5,000 goal.

But the story does not end here. When a winning patron came to pickup their auction item and asked about the auction result...upon learning that we were just a couple hundred dollars from our goal, they unexpectedly made a \$200 cash donation. So, thanks to their generous donation, we met our goal of \$5,000 to help our library. Fabulous indeed!

Special thanks go to the Palm Springs merchants, members of the Friends' board, and other generous supporters who donated items. And most of all, a big thank you to our Friends of the Library who supported our first online auction.



**amazon**smile  
You shop. Amazon gives.



**FRIENDS OF THE PALM SPRINGS LIBRARY**  
 300 S. SUNRISE WAY • PALM SPRINGS, CA 92262

*Friends of the Palm Springs Library*

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

- Nanci Morrison, *President*
- Richard Ellis, *Vice President*
- Jay Dunaway, *Treasurer*
- Kathy Weyer, *Secretary and Membership*
- Rosemary Flaherty
- Jonathan Goldman
- Michael Hirschbein
- Milt Levinson, *Emeritus*
- Christine MacCalla
- Gary Maehara
- Laura Miller
- Edward Pollard
- Chris Seidel
- Ginger Semple
- Wanda Turman

**CONTACT US:**

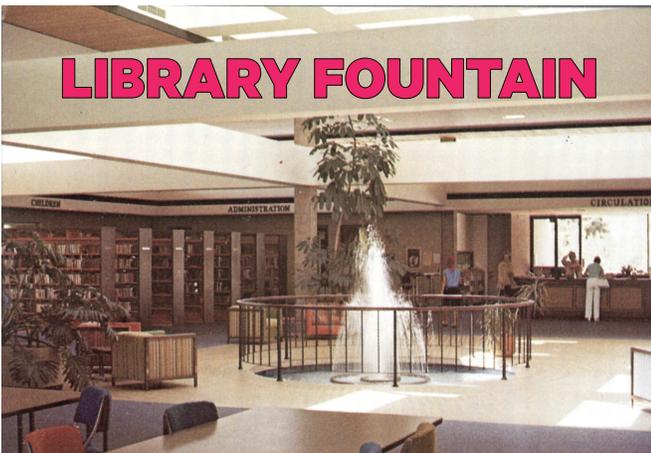
Email:  
[info@friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org](mailto:info@friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org)  
 Website:  
[www.friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org](http://www.friendsofthepalmspringslibrary.org)  
 760.666.8838



**From the Archives**



**BOOK SALE AT THE PALM SPRINGS MALL**



**LIBRARY FOUNTAIN**

**ANNUAL BOOK SALE**

AT THE PALM SPRINGS PUBLIC LIBRARY • BARISTO & SUNRISE WAY

**THOUSANDS OF BOOKS • CDS • CASSETTES  
 SHEET MUSIC & MAGAZINES AT BETTER  
 THAN BARGAIN PRICES**

**February 23–25, 2007**



**SPECIAL SELLING HOURS:**

Friday, for members of Friends of the Palms Springs Library only 9 am until Noon

**REGULAR HOURS: FRIDAY**

Noon to 4 pm

**SATURDAY AND SUNDAY**

10 am to 5 pm

Sponsored and supported by the Friends of the Palm Springs Library. Membership applications available at the book sale.