



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Friends of the Castro Valley Library

May 2018

There are no meetings scheduled at this time.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

By Kay Wetherwax

Last January at a planning meeting of the Board of Directors, we committed to work to increase the membership of the Friends of the Castro Valley Library. Not only do the dues paid by Friends members help support library programs, but members receive information about upcoming events like our book sales and pop-up sales that increase participation and help us raise more funds for our library.

We have held a number of pop-up membership sales at popular library programs, and we have had a very positive response. At the Castro Valley Reads Grand Finale, we signed up 24 new members and made almost \$400! Overall, we have added nearly 50 new members in the last three months. We hope to add 100 by June, and we need your help!

Encourage your friends and acquaintances who use the library and attend library programs to join the Friends. All the wonderful activities and events offered at the library are supported by the dollars we contribute. If you work in the BookStore, please remind customers, especially those who shop there regularly, about the benefits of membership and encourage them to join if they are not already members.

In addition to our regular BookStore hours and our three-times-a-year book sales, we have been holding pop-up specialty sales targeted to specific audiences. Several of these sales have taken place to coordinate with the library's very popular Musical Story Time. In these sales, we offer preschool children's books, and we have often sold over 400 books in only two hours! We hope to have a music pop-up sale of compact discs in the spring at one of the library's upcoming jazz concert series.

We currently have a great need for new volunteers to work in the BookStore. Several shifts are short-handed. We especially need volunteers who are able to work weekends, which are typically our most profitable shifts. If you are a Friend but not a BookStore volunteer, please consider signing up! It's a great opportunity to help the library and to make some new friends at the same time. If you complete a Volunteer

COMING EVENTS AT THE LIBRARY!

There are many regular Library activities, and the event schedule is updated frequently. Please call 667-7900 or visit www.aclibrary.org for up to date event information.

Reading Groups:

First Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. *Mystery Book Club*
Second Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. *eBestseller Book Club (registration req.)*
Tuesdays, 6:00-8:00 p.m. *Write to Read Literacy Reading Club* for adults with English as their second language.

Other Ongoing Activities:

Homework Help Mon. thru Thurs. 3:30-5:00 p.m. (when school is in session only)
Advanced Math & Science Tutoring Mondays 6:00-7:30 p.m.
Lawyer in the Library 2nd Mondays 6-8 p.m. Appt. req'd.
State Sen. Bob Wiechowski Representative 3rd Wed. 3—5 p.m.
MAC meeting 2nd, 3rd and 4th Mondays, 6 p.m.
Job Lab Monday 12:30-3:00, Wednesday 10:30-3:00.
Drop-in gadget help 1st and 3rd Mondays 5:30-7:30 p.m.—(phones, computers, etc.) for adults.
CV Library Genealogy Study Group. 1st and 3rd Thursdays from 10:30 to 12:30. Registration required.
Creative Writing Group, 2nd Thursdays from 1:00 to 2:30 p.m. (pre-registration required for this group).

Partial List of Events Coming Up in May

5/5 10:30-2:30 Adult Computer Class—Windows 10 part 1
5/5 1:30-3:30 Adult Computer Class—Amuse & Entertain w/iPhone/iPad
5/5 2:00-3:30 In Full Swing Big Band concert
5/7 6:30-8:00 Paws to Read
5/8 12:15-12:45 Tuff Tumblers
5/12 10:30-11:45 Yoga for Beginners and Beyond
5/19 10:30-2:30 Adult Computer Class—Windows 10 Part 2
5/19 1:30-3:30 Adult Computer Class—Photography with iPhone/iPad
5/20 2:00-3:30 Cole Swings Cole (George Cole Trio)

New events are added frequently! Please visit the library website or check the readerboard in the library lobby for complete information on all events and activities!

The Library will be closed on the following days:

Monday May 28th for Memorial Day
Wednesday July 4th for Independence Day

Watch for more announcements in the *Forum*, on the Library's website and readerboard, and on the CV Library Facebook Page.

Also, remember to visit the quarterly art displays near the BookStore and the special features in the lobby display cases.

Interest Form (available at the BookStore) someone will contact to set up a training session. If you're already a regular BookStore volunteer, please consider signing up for one or two weekend shifts per month.

MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER

By Dawn Balestreri, Branch Manager

We wondered what would happen if we asked everyone in Castro Valley to read and discuss the same book. Castro Valley Reads was born and has been a resounding success!



More than 400 people signed up for discussion groups. The Library hosted 15 groups and 24 private groups across the valley, including the high school, hosted discussions. We also featured 15 special programs related to the book that were enjoyed by hundreds of people.

We hoped this book would renew people's reverence for the natural world, and we think it

succeeded. In discussions people talked about how they looked at plants and trees differently, delighting in their beauty, their wealth of survival techniques, and the lessons about life we can learn from them. We think that many more people know now that plants and trees specifically and scientific inquiry generally need our attention and protection.

We have so many people to thank for making this program a success. The library staff including Chris Selig and I, Lyn Leone, Vivian Jaquette, Nathan Silva, and Paige Kelly all worked together to create programming and lead discussions. Thanks to them all!

In addition, we need to thank:

- Professor Ana Almeida from Cal State East Bay for help with our lobby display
- Cindy Chadwick our county librarian and Deb Sica our deputy county library for joining us to lead discussion groups
- Chandra Lee, one of our great patrons, who volunteered to help us lead 5 discussion groups
- Jim Negri and the Rotary Club for helping us to buy extra copies of the book
- Deborah Yager who presented at one of our Meet a Scientist Events and also got Lab Girl in the hands of 60 CVHS students.
- School superintendent Parvin Ahmadi, Center for the Arts Board member Terry Liebowitz, and the staff at Castro Valley Center for the Arts who helped us host this event when it became too large for the library to accommodate.

But most of all we need to thank the Friends of the Library. When we came to them to ask for the funding for Castro Valley Reads, they did not hesitate. The Friends fund all our programs and offer moral support too. Very little gets done at the Library without them.

CHILDREN'S SERVICES AT THE CASTRO VALLEY LIBRARY

By Paige Kelly, Children's Services Staff

The Children's Services area is as busy as ever and getting ready for summer. In May, we complete our STEAM Saturdays programming, which began last September. STEAM is an acronym that stands for Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math. From 10:30a.m. to 12:00pm on the 1st and 3rd Saturday of the month, children ages four to eight and their caregivers participate in hands-on activities that introduce fundamental concepts, skills, and an interest in STEAM while also promoting a love for the library. On May 19th, we'll do a STEAM Extravaganza in the Chabot Room and bring the favorites from the year. The STEAM program has been very successful averaging 65 participants per program.

Funding from the Friends of the Library has provided STEAM participants with the supplies needed to invent, learn, and be creative.



There will be something going on every day at the library this summer! Summer programming begins June 18 through August 9. Build it Mondays provides kids a place to explore various building materials like Legos and more. Tuesdays will be movie day featuring newly released videos for kids and teens. Wild Wednesday will be our performer showcase day. The kids will enjoy a magician, juggler, bubble-lady, puppets, drum lessons, and wild animals to name a few. Our very popular Musical Storytime will continue during the summer on Thursday mornings in June. Thursdays afternoons will be game day. Classic and new board games for all ages along with Nintendo Switch and Wii video games will be available and make the perfect playdate. All of this programming is possible due to generous funding by the Friends of the Library.

Reading Takes You Everywhere is the theme for the 2018 Summer Reading Program. Children work their way through a game board by reading and prizes are awarded along the way. Weekly prize drawings will be held for all those who register. Preschool, teen and adult reading games are also available. Patrons can choose to play online or on paper and we are bringing back the Spinning Wheels! As always, children entering the 6th through the 8th grade in the fall are encouraged to volunteer for Kid Power this summer. Kid Power volunteers assist the children playing the Summer Reading Game, and on Build it and Game Days. Kid Power sign-ups will begin in early May and each Kid Power volunteer must attend an orientation session to be held in late May or early June. We will finish off the summer with a Kid Power volunteer party for those who have volunteered a minimum of 8 hours. Come visit us this summer to volunteer, play, or just read!

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS!

The success of the Friends of the Castro Valley Library depends on your generous donations of books, CD's, and DVD's. We are happy to receive your donations any time the BookStore is open. If you have a large donation (more than a few cartons) please contact us ahead of time, as we may want to make arrangements for your donation to be dropped off at our storage facility rather than at the Library. Please do not leave donations outside the Library as they are subject to weather or vandalism damage and detract from the appearance of our beautiful Library.

At this time, we are accepting donations of most types of books, DVDs, and music CDs in good, saleable condition, as well as magazines that are no more than 3 months old. We do not accept sets of books such as encyclopedias, Time-Life sets, condensed books, textbooks older than 3 years, or books that are dirty, moldy, smoky, or otherwise damaged. We also cannot accept VHS tapes (except Disney), vinyl records, or cassette tapes (music or audiobooks).

Funds received from the sale of these items pay for library programs and amenities that would not otherwise be available. For example, the Castro Valley Reads program was funded primarily by the Friends, as are many of the summer and seasonal break programs for children.

If you have questions about donating or how the donations are used, please let us know! Donation guidelines are available at the BookStore or on our website.

JENNY LIN MEMORIAL WALK

By the Lin Family

At the 24th anniversary of the loss of Jenny Lin, her family is hosting a memorial service to honor the teenage girl on Friday, May 25, 7 PM, at the Castro Valley Library on 3600 Norbridge Avenue in Castro Valley. Following the ceremony, there will be a candlelight walk in downtown Castro Valley to remind the public of the unsolved murder and to raise awareness of child safety. Everyone is invited to share this special occasion.

A young, talented musician and a straight-A student, Jenny was murdered in her own home on May 27, 1994, at the age of 14. This brutal death devastated her family and shocked the community. Jenny's parents, John and Mei-lian Lin, vowed to continue working with the police until the case is solved, to carry on Jenny's dreams, and to extend her life in a unique fashion.

For over 20 years, the Jenny Lin Foundation has offered music scholarships and free music programs to the community each summer, and has organized numerous safety fairs, workshops and contests to raise awareness of child safety issues and to improve safety knowledge and precautions for parents and children. Starting in 2017, the Foundation also embarked on a safety book project with Alameda County public libraries. Working with the Castro Valley Library Manager, Ms. Dawn Balestreri, a series of books covering a wide range of safety related topics were provided to local public libraries in Castro Valley, San Lorenzo and Union City.

To date, there is still no arrest or conviction related to Jenny's murder. However, her family is hopeful that through continuous police effort and public help, this senseless, horrifying case will one day be solved. A \$100,000 reward for information leading to the conviction of the murderer is still available. Anyone with information please call the Alameda County Sheriff's Department at (510) 667-7721 or the toll-free hotline at (855) 4-JENNY-LIN.

I want to join the Friends of the Castro Valley Library as a new renewing member (IMPORTANT—so that we have accurate information, PLEASE PRINT CLEARLY!)

First Name: _____ Last Name _____
Address: _____
City, State, Zip: _____
Phone _____
E-MAIL _____

Make tax-deductible check payable to
Friends of the Castro Valley Library
3600 Norbridge Ave.
Castro Valley CA 94546

I do do not wish to receive the newsletter and other Friends' information by e-mail

MEMBERSHIP LEVEL:

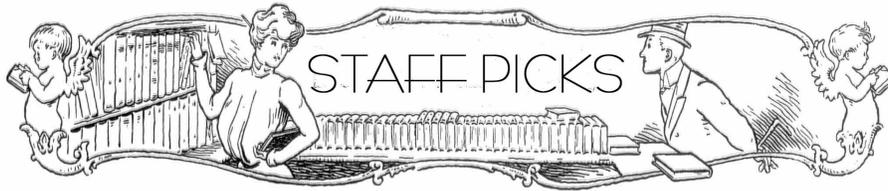
- \$10 Individual \$20 Family \$5 Youth \$35 Corporate Sponsor
 \$50 Benefactor \$200 Lifetime—Individual \$300 Lifetime—Family
Membership renewals are due January 1st.

I would like to be an active Friend and help with:

- Book store Sales events Membership Publications
 Information Technology/Website Public Relations/Advocacy

FOR OFFICE USE ONLY:

Card Issued
By _____
Date: _____



Lab Girl by Hope Jahren (2017 nonfiction): *Lab Girl* is two books masquerading as one. Hope Jahren produces an autobiography, interesting and untidy, punctuated by scientific essays, fascinating but challenging. To quote, Page 20, “My laboratory is a place where I write. I have become proficient at producing a rare species of prose capable of distilling ten years of work by five people into six published pages, written in a language that very few people can read . . .” This rare species of prose supplies *Lab Girl*’s essays, eminently readable and rewarding. After reading these essays, I turn to Joyce Kilmer, distinguished American poet, to articulate my reaction:

I think that I shall never see
A poem as lovely as a tree,
A tree whose hungry mouth is pressed
Against the earth’s sweet flowing breast.

On the other hand, regarding her autobiography, I quote, Page 276, “Bill knows about my writing . . . pages of poetry stuffed in my car’s glove box . . . many nextstory.doc files on my hard drive . . . finding exactly the right word that stabs cleanly at the heart of what you are trying to say. Bill knows how much I need to write.” The result is the bio of a woman scientist, reminiscent of *The Help*’s Skeeter. I am awed at the dedication and determination and perseverance and achievement of Dr./Prof. Jahren. I am also slowly seduced by her extraordinary openness to life’s vicissitudes, an openness that is richly rewarded. I recommend you follow Jahren’s example (Page 276) “I read most books twice or more.” (Martin Waldron)

The Woman in Cabin 10 by Ruth Ware (2016 fiction): Even after finishing this mystery book, the reader will question who the victim was and who the killer was. The reader is encouraged to question the facts expressed but is still satisfied at the end. The setting is a luxurious cruise ship with 10 cabins. The main character is a travel writer who is happy to receive this assignment, but the night before the cruise she is traumatized by robbery and assault. She witnesses a crime the first day of the cruise. Many events and circumstances seem to discredit her, yet she believes in what she has seen. (Sara Accornero)

A Fireproof Home for the Bride by Amy Scheibe (2015 fiction): The title is certainly different, and you don’t discover its meaning until almost the end of the book, but eventually all becomes clear. The story is set in 1950’s Morehead Minnesota and its “twin” of Fargo, North Dakota. The rural community is largely conservative, Lutheran (a very rigid synod), and poor. Emmy Nelson is betrothed to neighbor Ambrose Brann, somewhat against her wishes, and forced into compliance by her mother. She manages an evening out with

friends and discovers there are greener pastures and a more attractive suitor, and through a series of unforeseen events, frees herself from both Ambrose and her family situation. In the process, though, she also discovers that Ambrose and several of her neighbors and family members are involved in an extreme racist group that is an offshoot of the KKK. The book starts somewhat slowly, but it soon becomes both interesting and thrilling as Emmy comes into her own. Ms. Scheibe’s writing style is persuasive and descriptive, and she puts the reader right into the middle of the rural Minnesota winter. Recommended. (Ginger Russell)

Widow’s Walk by Robert B. Parker (2002 fiction): This is one of many Boston P.I. Spenser’s cases. My first! I had read six short chapters before I realized that the dialogue alone was whisking me and plot development along. There was minimal but sufficient character description, words revealed people. And then there’s central character Mary Torricelli Smith, a truly dumb lady. Linned and limited by her Junior High vocabulary. “Mary was something else, dark skin, big dark eyes, big blond hair, a lot of blue eye makeup. She had a big chest . . . Her clothes were expensive but a little too small for her. And the jacket of her black suit rode up a little on her hips.” The plot is convoluted, with no less than six murders simplifying the cast. The pace is non-stop, with meals and clothing detailed, and Pearl, an aging mutt, supplying canine comfort. Local Boston knowledge would have helped me, but I hung on, accepting the zig-zag unfolding of an intricate plot, and concluded that Robert Parker has a unique and totally captivating style. I was impressed by weather descriptions such as “. . . the air was dense with the unculminated promise of heavy rain.” And a staff position: “acting second assistant junior auxiliary vice president.” No wonder Parker had written 70 best-selling books at the time of his death in 2011. (Martin Waldron)

BOOK REVIEWS WANTED. If you recently read a book, saw a movie, or listened to a CD that you’d like to share with your Friends, send us a review! Your reviews can be e-mailed to us at Friends.CVL@gmail.com or dropped off at the BookStore any time. We will print as many as will fit in the space.



AVAILABLE ON AMAZON.COM

The Friends currently have over 100 books and other media listed on *Amazon.com*. Here are a few of them:

Hetch-Hetchy and Its Dam Railroad \$26.00
The Wonderful World of Collecting Perfume Bottles \$20.00
Romance of London's Underground \$20.00
History of the Surrealist Movement \$28.00
Roald Dahl Splendiferous Story Collection \$21.00
Works of Honore de Balzac \$115.00
British Intelligence in the Second World War \$215.00
History of Humboldt County CA \$54.00
The Fanny Cory Mother Goose \$84.00

Our name on Amazon is **FriendsofBooks**, and our entire on-line store can be viewed at <http://www.amazon.com/shops/A1AE92DUB78GQ4>. You can access the store by typing the above string in your browser, or by clicking on our name when viewing one of our listings.



Don't forget to mention us when purchasing through *Amazon Smile*. When you select Friends of the Castro Valley Library as your charity of choice, we will receive a 0.5% donation every time you make a purchase. Many great items "from soup to nuts" are designated as *Smile* products, so please check it out.

CHECK OUT OUR BOOKSTORE MONTHLY THEMES!

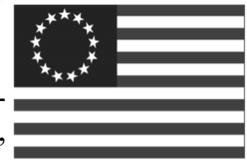
By Marie Blackmon

Our special theme books are found on the center of the Honesty Shelves.

May: Preview some wedding books. Celebrate May Day and Mother's Day. Honor someone special on Memorial Day.



June: Work on your summer gardening, recognize a graduate, show your LGBTQ Pride, have the best wedding month ever, celebrate Juneteenth and the Emancipation Proclamation.



July: Celebrate Independence Day and Bastille Day, travel literarily with a book, and watch for the start of Dog Days of Summer.



August: Bark as the Dog Days continue, take a swing at National Golf Month, recognize your favorite for Artist Appreciation Month, and uh-oh, Back to School.

WATCH FOR POP-UP SALES AND MEMBERSHIP DRIVES!

If you recently attended a library event that was funded by the Friends of the Castro Valley Library, you may have noticed some of our members signing up new members. We are excited to report that we have over four dozen new members as a result!

In addition, when we have an overabundance of books or other media in specific categories, we may hold a pop-up sale. We most recently held two pop-up sales of children's books in conjunction with children's activities. Other pop-up sales have featured music CDs and multi-media products, science fiction, and cookbooks. Pop-up sales may be planned as much as a month or two in advance; please feel free to ask at the BookStore if there are any upcoming pop-up sales. We also announce these sales on Facebook, so Like our page to receive the notices.

We are looking for volunteers to staff pop-up sales. Most only last a couple of hours. Sign up at the BookStore if you would like to be on the volunteer list.



Thank You CORNER

By Kay Wetherwax, President

First of all, I'd like to thank a group of volunteers who came out on a cold, very rainy Friday night to sell memberships at the CV Reads finale. Thank you, Sara Accornero, Sue Choquette, Elizabeth Rinehart, and Wayne Ainsworth, for joining me in our successful pop-up membership sale. And thanks to many others who have worked at our pop-up membership sales and specialty sales during the past few months.

Thanks to our library staff for their hard work to make Castro Valley Reads such a great success. The grand finale was a wonderful evening, with an interesting presentation by author Hope Jahren, delicious food, and an opportunity for participants to have their copies of *Lab Girl* signed by the author.

Thanks to Joan King for getting our beautiful Friends of the Library tablecloth.

And last, but certainly not least, a giant Thank You to our many BookStore volunteers who work every week to staff the BookStore and help us continue to support so many wonderful library programs. Without you, none of this would be possible!



HOW TO CONTACT *CIRCLE OF FRIENDS*

If you have any comments or suggestions for regular columns or features that you would like to see in *Circle of Friends*, please let us know.

We also welcome brief news items or articles. Deadlines are typically about one month prior to a regular meeting date. Keep in mind that time-sensitive items must fit within the publication schedule.

Please call 510-733-3285 or e-mail us at Friends.CVL@gmail.com.

MEET YOUR FRIENDS Annette Adams

Annette was born and raised in the Bay Area, getting her love of books from her father, who took her to bookstores and read to her nightly. Her family later moved to the Sierra foothills, where she attended middle school and college. Her family traveled to



Europe, Mexico, and the Yucatan. In college, Annette studied Spanish and Anthropology. During her college breaks, she worked at the Berkeley AAA, handing out maps and guides and routing trips. After spending a month with

her father in France, she returned home to study French.

Fast-forward to 1997, when Annette and her husband and daughter moved to Castro Valley. While her daughter was in school, Annette volunteered in her classrooms and the school library. When the new Castro Valley Library opened in 2009, Annette joined the Friends and began working in the BookStore. She has worked as the PIC (person in charge) of the Arts section and Non-English section and also at our book sales. Currently, she is the PIC for the Health and Diet section and a BookStore Committee member.

Annette's husband Richard helps us out by picking up and delivering the rental tables for the book sales. A really huge contribution of Richard's is the design and construction of our wonderful work table in the Friends office, which accommodates many sale boxes and provides a sorting and cleaning surface for both short and tall volunteers.

If you see Annette (or Richard) in the BookStore or at a book sale, please say hello and thanks!



Mark your calendars now—the next Book Sale is

AUGUST 17-19

As always, the sale will be at the following times:
Friday night Member Preview—6 p.m. to 8 p.m.
Saturday—10 a.m. to 4 p.m.
Sunday Bag Sale—1 p.m. to 4 p.m. (\$4 per bag)

We will again feature a nice selection of fiction, nonfiction, and children's books, as well as gift quality books at bargain prices.
We anticipate having at least 300 cartons of books at the sale.
You will be glad you came!

Volunteers will be needed for all sale days as well as for the set-up and clean-up days.
Contact us at 510-733-3285 or Friends.CVL@gmail.com if you can volunteer or if you have any questions about the work or requirements.
A signup sheet will be available in the Friends office approximately one month prior to the book sale date.

*Planning to attend?
Please remember to bring your current (2018) Friends of the Castro Valley Library membership card in order to take advantage of your \$2.00 discount.
You can join or renew at the door or purchase a membership ahead of time.*

MARK YOUR CALENDARS NOW. THE 2018 BOOK SALES WILL BE ON THE FOLLOWING DATES:

**August 17—19
November 30—December 2**

WE MAY ALSO HAVE SPECIAL SALES AT OTHER TIMES DURING THE YEAR. REMEMBER TO CHECK FREQUENTLY FOR NOTICES IN THE NEWSLETTER, ON OUR WEBSITE, AND POSTED AT THE BOOKSTORE.

LIKE US ON FACEBOOK AND GET UPDATES ON ALL OUR EVENTS, AS WELL AS ANY SPECIAL BOOKS OR COLLECTIONS THAT COME INTO THE BOOKSTORE!

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS, PAGE 8

LIBRARY HOURS

Monday & Tuesday 12 noon to 8 p.m.
Wed. & Thursday 10 a.m. to 6 p.m.
Friday Closed
Saturday 10 a.m. to 5 p.m.
Sunday 1 p.m. to 5 p.m.

Please call 667-7900 or visit the Library website at www.aclibrary.org for more information.

BOOKSTORE HOURS

Monday 12 noon to 5:30 p.m.
Tuesday (1st & 3rd) 12 noon to 7:30 p.m.
Tuesday (2nd, 4th, 5th) 12 noon to 5:30 p.m.
Wed. & Thursday 10 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.
Friday Closed
Saturday 10:30 a.m. to 4:30 p.m.
Sunday 1:30 p.m. to 4:30 p.m.

Please call 733-3285 or e-mail Friends.CVL@gmail.com for more information.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

Kay Wetherwax, President
Wayne Ainsworth, Vice President
Ka'ai Jensen and Barbara Kissling, Co-Treasurers
Carol Lyke, Secretary
Sara Accornero, At-Large Director
Joan King, At-Large Director

Board members may be contacted by calling the Friends office or emailing us as noted under the BookStore information to the left. You may also contact us through our website or by visiting the BookStore during normal operating hours.

MEETING SCHEDULE!!!

Friends meetings are held on an as-needed basis. *Circle of Friends* is published quarterly. Please check your newsletter or our website for upcoming meeting dates and other events.

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www.aclibrary.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

