



# CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Friends of the Castro Valley Library  
February 2014

THE FEBRUARY GENERAL MEETING HAS BEEN CANCELLED.



## PRESIDENT'S REPORT

I am humbled by the amazing warm welcome I have received as the new president of the Friends. The Friends of the Castro Valley Library are truly an amazing group of dedicated volunteers who work tirelessly to ensure continued support of our beautiful library. I have had the privilege of talking with many of our volunteers over the past few months. Each and every individual shared their commitment to the continued success of the Friends. This commitment from so many individuals is the reason that I am confident that we will continue to be an important part of the Castro Valley community.

The BookStore continues to be a great service to the community as well as a great fund raiser for the library. We serve the community in two important ways – accepting donations and selling used books at very reasonable prices. I enjoy seeing the relief on the faces of people when they know their beloved books are going to good use. As most of you know, it is difficult but necessary to part with some of our books, so it is a great relief to know that they are going to a good cause. It is also wonderful to watch people shop; so many people find just what they want and are delighted at the minimal cost. The children are especially fun to watch shop.

The December book sale was well attended and appreciated by the greater community. Thousands of books were moved from storage to the library, organized, sold to the eager buyers, the leftovers re-boxed and sent on to a good cause, and for the first time we were able to accept credit cards at a major sale. This all happened in the span of five days with the help of many volunteers and some special help from the Castro Valley High School Interact Club. Congratulations to all who participated in any way.

The Friends of Castro Valley Library is an important organization for everyone in the community. It is especially important for all of us who are lucky enough to be one of the

## 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](http://www.aclibrary.org) for up to date event information.

### Reading Groups:

First Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. *Mystery Book Club*  
Last Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. *CV Library Book Club*  
Third Tuesdays, 6:30 to 8 p.m. *eBesteller Book Club (registration req.)*

### Other Ongoing Activities:

**Homework Help** Mon. thru Thurs. 3:30-5:00 p.m.  
**Advanced Math & Science Tutoring** Mondays 6:00-7:30 p.m.  
**Lawyer in the Library** 2nd Mondays 6-8 p.m. Appt. req'd.  
**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.  
**Assemblyman Bill Quirk's representative**—first Tuesday of every month from 12 noon to 2:00 p.m.  
**Covered California information**—Tuesdays 4:00-7:00 p.m. through March 31st. First come, first served.  
**Winter Preschool Time**—Thursdays 2/6 through 3/20 from 10:30-11:30 a.m., for children under 5 yrs.  
**Movie Matinee**—4th Tuesdays at 1 p.m. Movies geared to adult audiences. Coming up: *Captain Phillips* (Feb.) and *All Is Lost* (March)

See page 3 for information on Income Tax forms and assistance.

### Partial List of Events Coming Up in February and March

2/3 6:30-8:00 p.m. Paws to Read (reg. req'd.)  
2/19 1:30-2:30 p.m. Falls Prevention Discussion Group  
2/22 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sharks In My Backyard? Community Discussion on Sea Level Rise  
3/3 6:30-8:00 p.m. Paws to Read (reg. req'd.)  
3/4 5:00 p.m. Intro to T'ai Chi Chih/Qi Gong  
3/25 4:00-5:00 p.m. Pinching Pennies—Couponing 101

The Library will be closed on the following days:

Wednesday February 12th for Lincoln's Birthday  
Monday February 17th for President's Day

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!

volunteers. I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you who make this organization work.

Jane Kraut, President  
Friends of the Castro Valley Library

## MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER

By Carolyn Moskowitz

I wanted to take this opportunity to acknowledge outgoing Friends President Ned Lyke. Ned and Carol Lyke first became active in the Friends of the Castro Valley Library when we were housed in the old building on Redwood Road. Their leadership, vision, and hard work played a major role in the transition to the new library, the establishment of the BookStore, and the growth of the Friends over the last several years. Both Ned and Carol are still active Friends, but in November Ned stepped down as President. I wanted to make sure he knows that his valuable work has been greatly appreciated by the entire staff, and that his contribution has been a substantial part of the reason that the new library has been such a success.

At the end of December, the San Lorenzo Library closed for renovations. They are expecting to reopen into a beautiful new facility in the summer of 2015. The new building will be nearly twice as big, with additional meeting room space, a Friends bookstore and a café. In the meantime, a swing space will be opened. It is located on Hesperian Blvd. close to the old San Lorenzo Library. During all of January and much of February, there will be no open library in San Lorenzo while the swing space is readied. We are welcoming the San Lorenzo community, and many are using the Castro Valley Library during this period. As a result, we are very busy! Some of the San Lorenzo collection is being stored at the old building on Redwood Road, and will be there for the next 18 months.

We are starting up a new session of the EBestseller book club on February 11<sup>th</sup>. We still have room if you'd like to get a chance to experience reading on an electronic device. With over 60 bestsellers loaded onto the Nook, including John Grisham's *Sycamore Row*, Amy Tan's *Valley of Amazement* and Donna Tartt's *Goldfinch*, everyone in the club has a great opportunity to read bestsellers, learn tablet technology and discuss books. Please stop by the information desk to learn more and to sign up.

Also new to the library is a regular monthly movie matinee—geared to an adult audience. We are holding them on the 4<sup>th</sup> Tuesday of each month at 1 PM. On February 25<sup>th</sup>, we will be showing *Captain Phillips* starring Tom Hanks and on March 25<sup>th</sup> *All is Lost* starring Robert Redford. Both were nominated in the best actor category for a Golden Globe award. All movies are free. And of course both the Ebestseller book club and the monthly matinees are funded through the generosity of the Friends.

Finally, on March 25<sup>th</sup> at 9 a.m., the Friends will be hosting the state-wide annual meeting of the California Public Library Advocates group right here at the Castro Valley Library. It should be an interesting meeting and all are welcome to attend.

## INCOME TAX HELP AVAILABLE AT THE LIBRARY BEGINNING FEBRUARY 5TH!

By Lyn Leone, Adult Services Librarian

It's tax time, and the Castro Valley Library is a great place to get help!

**Paper Tax Forms and Instructions:** The library will continue to stock all the most popular tax forms from the IRS and the California Franchise Tax Board. The IRS stopped mailing paper income tax packages in 2011 to save money and to encourage taxpayers to file electronically. All banks and post offices, and most libraries, have discontinued providing paper tax forms because of problems with the service. However, to save yourself the frustration of multiple trips to the library hoping to pick up tax forms, only to learn the forms are not yet available, be advised that both the IRS and the Franchise Tax Board forms are generally not available until late January. This year, because of the federal government shutdown, some IRS forms and instructions may not be available until well into February. For less popular forms, the IRS provides the library with a book of reproducible federal income tax forms for the current tax year, or tax forms may be downloaded and printed using the Library computers.

**Get Free Tax Help:** Area residents can meet with an IRS-trained volunteer who can assist with basic income tax returns free of charge. Through a project coordinated with the VITA (Volunteer Income Tax Assistance) program and the American Association of Retired Persons (AARP), the library will be providing tax help on Wednesdays and Thursdays by appointment beginning February 5th. Appointments can be made starting January 20th by phone or in person at the Library's Information Desk.

**Access Information:** The Library has reference and circulating books to help with preparing either personal or business income tax forms. For a list of tax related materials owned by the Library, search the Alameda County Library catalog for "tax," "income tax," or "small business taxation." Castro Valley Library Staff welcomes the opportunity to assist customers in finding tax forms, instructions, and information on the federal and California State tax websites or in the Library.

## WELCOME TO THE NEW BOARD— AND HELP WANTED!!

### Positions of At-Large Board Member, Book Sale Chair, and Volunteer Coordinator

**An election of officers** was held at the November general meeting. We are happy to welcome incoming President Jane Kraut, as well as Board Member-At-Large Robert Souza. Kay Wetherwax was elected as the second At-Large Board Member; however, since the position of Secretary remained unfilled, Kay has agreed to become Secretary. Thank you, Kay!!!

**We now need to fill** the vacant position of **At-Large Board Member**. This position is a one-year term, ending in November of 2014, and may be extended for an additional two years.

**The requirements include** (1) attendance at monthly Board of Directors meetings, which are currently held from approximately 9:30 to 11:30 a.m. on the third Tuesday of the month. (2) Attendance at quarterly General Meetings, which are currently held from 7 to 8:30 p.m. on the third Tuesday of February, May, August, and November. In practice, we have held 2 to 3 General Meetings a year.

**At-large members** do not, at this time, have specific duties but may volunteer for, or be assigned, tasks as needed. Some of the possibilities: Information Technology (IT), Publicity, Membership, Sales Events, or special projects. All Board members con-

tribute to the Friends' decision-making process. Your creative ideas are welcome. Please contact any Board member if you can help.

**Other positions now available are:**

**Book Sale Chairperson:** This person would manage the 3 big book sales held each year, as well as any smaller specialty sales that may be held as needed. The work involves reserving the meeting rooms at the Library, arranging to obtain tables, arranging to have books and other materials moved from storage to the library (some of which are returned to storage during or after the sale), arranging for pickup of unsold books, and other general tasks as needed. Established procedures are in place, and there is plenty of volunteer help available.

**Volunteer Coordinator:** This person coordinates requests for volunteer help, including the BookStore, book sales and other tasks. The work involves checking incoming applications for interested parties, referring likely BookStore candidates to the store training coordinator, calling volunteers when the need arises, and managing the signups for the book sales.

**If you're interested,** please feel free to ask questions about any of these positions by calling or emailing us, or drop by the BookStore.

**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 in October of each year.*

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: \_\_\_\_\_



# STAFF PICKS

## Book, Movie, and Music Reviews



*The Fate of Mercy Alban* by Wendy Webb (2013 Fiction). Following the unexpected death of her mother, Grace Alban returns to her family home to settle the estate and decide what to do with the property. The Alban family has a long history of secrets, scandals, and alleged supernatural occurrences, all of which are dredged up when a reporter tries to dig into the simultaneous disappearance of Grace's aunt and the suicide of a world-famous author that occurred over 50 years ago. Like the Alban family home with its secret rooms and passages, this novel is packed with twists and surprises that keep the reader guessing until the last page. It is truly exciting and scary and would make a great movie. Recommended to anyone who enjoys a good murder mystery with a witch or two thrown in. (Ginger Russell)

*Citizens of London: The Americans Who Stood by Britain in Its Darkest, Finest Hour* – Lynne Olson (2010 Nonfiction): Despite the commonality of language and history, the alliance between the United States and Britain, especially preceding WWII, was not assured. Three Americans, living in London at the time, Averell Harriman, Edward R. Murrow, and John Winant, understood Britain's peril against the aggressive Hitler and worked diligently to convince President Roosevelt and the skeptical American public that on moral and practical grounds, it was necessary for the U.S. to support the United Kingdom and allies and enter WWII. A most interesting book, it gives an added dimension to the volumes of material currently available about the Second World War. Available in both hardback and E-Books in the library. (Carol Lyke)

*Pope Joan*—Donna Woolfolk Cross (1996 fiction): Donna Woolfolk Cross has written a novel rather than a historical study because it is impossible to determine with certainty whether Joan existed or not . . . though . . . there are more than 500 ancient manuscripts containing accounts of Joan's papacy. Cross's novel is a rich and ribald tale of life in the ninth century. Details are harrowing: no privacy, no plumbing, no electricity. No literacy, magical medicine, blind religious beliefs, appalling injustices, bloody Vikings. Monasteries and convents provided limited education, but at great cost to monks and nuns. Cross traces Joan's life journey, from country girl to boy Benedictine monk and Roman cleric. Credible characters accompany her—parents, siblings, clergy and Roman officials. Her shining intelligence, her reliance on reason and evidence rather than tradition and authority, and timely alliances with the learned Aes-

culapius, the nobleman Gerold, and Pope Leo, carry her to the Papal throne. Eventually her irrepressible womanhood asserts itself. A lifetime of deceit is revealed, and scandal erupts. I enjoyed the biography. It is a worthwhile and enlightening read. But I cannot believe that the Roman Catholic Church could bury the truth of Joan's papacy if it had really occurred. She never was. (Martin Waldron)

*Their Fate is Our Fate: How Birds Foretell Threats to Our Health and Our World* by Peter Doherty (2013 non-fiction) Everyone is aware of the presence of birds that share our community, be it the passing crow, the hummingbird coming to the feeder, or even the rotisserie chicken purchased for dinner. In this superb book, Nobel Prize winner Peter Doherty presents an engaging story of how birds can and do serve as an early warning system for very real threats to our health and the health of the planet in general. Drawing on his expertise in immunology and virology, the author takes the reader through a history of the use of chicken embryos and cell culture systems that were, and are, invaluable in developing vaccines to combat a number of viral diseases. "Sentinel chickens" have been used to monitor the progress of West Nile Virus. Waterfowl species harbor an extraordinary number of influenza viruses and have been implicated in the transmission of those viruses to human populations. The pandemic 1918 "Spanish flu" that killed millions of humans was a mutated virus initially growing in birds. Doherty demonstrates that a wide variety of bird species, from puffins, to ducks, to red knots, to domestic poultry, serve as hosts of virulent strains of viruses which, in turn, have shown the ability to mutate and infect mammals including humans. The text is very readable, a story of research discoveries by many scientists known personally by the author, and the enormous importance of modern scientific knowledge, ingenuity, and methods. It is a clear call to members of the human species to be aware of the world about them, the effects of not paying close attention to the welfare of other species (birds in particular), and the potential for long-term and devastating viral infections. It is highly recommended. (Ned Lyke.)

**Have you read (or seen or heard) a wonderful book, CD, or movie?? Please share it with your Friends. Reviews may be submitted at any time, and we will print as many as we can.**

## THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS!

The Friends of the Castro Valley Library are grateful for your generous donations of books and other media. You may now also make monetary donations through PayPal; please visit our website if you would like to make a tax-deductible cash donation.

**Donations of books**, magazines, DVDs, and CDs may be made at the library any time during our normal BookStore operating hours (as listed on page 8). If you have a very large donation (more than half a dozen bags or boxes), please give us a call ahead of time (733-FCVL) so that we can arrange to meet you at our storage facility.

**The Friends can accept** most types of media in good, saleable condition. We are not, however, able to accept encyclopedias or other sets of books, condensed books, textbooks or other time-sensitive books older than 3 years, or books that are dirty, smoky, or moldy. We also cannot accept VHS tapes other than Disney, or audio books on tape. (We are happy to take audio books on CD.) We are also happy to receive magazines that are 6 months old or newer. National Geographics may be up to 5 years old.

**We greatly appreciate** your bringing your donations when our BookStore and office are open. Donations that are dropped off when the library is closed may be stolen or vandalized and detract from the appearance of our beautiful library.

**All donations are tax-deductible**, and receipts will be provided upon request. The funds generated from your donations support many library programs and amenities that might not otherwise be possible.

**THANK YOU!!!**

**When they invented papyrus, someone probably said, "Storytelling was so good. Why did we have to go and put it on papyrus?" But one thing doesn't change: It's the story that counts. The medium doesn't matter.**

**- Eric Carle, Children's Book Author**

## CHECK OUT OUR BOOKSTORE MONTHLY THEMES!

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

**February:** Celebrate Black History Month, share a little love on Valentine's Day, honor our Presidents, and ring in The Year of the Horse. A bonus: award-winning books.

**March:** Some green for St. Patrick's Day, a Mardi Gras parade, honor Cesar Chavez, and look for Spring in the air.

**April:** Some humor (no fooling), Easter, Passover, and other religious observances, and perhaps a few accounting and tax books.

Coming up in **May:** a lot of special days, including May Day, Cinco De Mayo, Mother's Day, Bike to Work Day, and honoring our military on Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day.

## FINANCIAL REPORT

By Joan King



The Board is pleased to report that the Friends is in excellent financial condition. Book sales in the store, on line, and our big sale we had in December continue to be strong. At our annual meeting in November, we were pleased to fully fund the Librarian's wish list for the coming year. Items on the wish list for this year include AV equipment upgrades and the many programs available at the library. Some of the programs include the summer children's programs (8,000 participants last year!), Tuff Tumblers, Paws to Read, Lego Club, and the holiday and teen programs. We would like to thank the community for their continued support in donating books and patronizing our store and major book sales.

## 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](mailto:Friends.CVL@gmail.com).

## CHECK OUT OUR WEBSITE AND FACEBOOK PAGE!!!

The Friends website has been up and running for several months now. Visit us for the latest in BookStore and Book Sale information and events, donation guidelines, book reviews, and other news. The site address is [www.friendsofcvlibrary.org](http://www.friendsofcvlibrary.org).

We also now have a Facebook page! We are listed as Friends-of-the-Castro-Valley-Library. Like us to get updates on special sales and new acquisitions at the BookStore.

We are interested in your comments! Please call or email us, or drop by the BookStore and tell us in person if you have any questions or suggestions for the website or Facebook page.



## THANK YOU CORNER

This issue will focus on our outgoing president Ned Lyke. We are all sad to see him leave the board. Ned Lyke has served as president for four years and has many accomplishments to his credit. A partial list includes:

- Chaired all board meetings for four years
- Developed by-laws for the Friends
- Assured that all book sales ran smoothly
- Wrote the Book Sale manual – to ensure that all future sales run smoothly
- Created the Alameda County Friends Group and organized and chaired most meetings.
- Organized the storage facility and kept it organized
- Transported many, many boxes to storage and back again for sales
- Ensured that we have enough boxes in the store and ready for the sales
- Wrote extensively for the newsletter
- Maintained a positive working relationship with the library staff
- Set up the membership roster
- Stayed current on all community issues that may affect activities of the Friends
- Ensured that the bookstore was well organized and managed
- Many, many other accomplishments

As you can see, we are indebted to Ned for the helping create the viable organization we have become. Now the really good news: **Ned is not**

## MEET YOUR FRIENDS KAY RUNYON



Each time you visit the BookStore's wonderfully-stocked and organized children's books section, you may thank Kay Runyon.

Kay is the PIC (person in charge) of the children's and young adult books for both the BookStore and our big book sales. She says she has tried to make the sections as user-friendly as possible and that she wants our customers to find books that really interest them. Considering the number of customers of all ages who browse those sections and then purchase books, Kay is very successful!

Kay and her husband Bob live in the Hillcrest Knolls area of Alameda County. She has been in that neighborhood for 34 years. She worked as an administrative officer at a bank. Her past adventures also include running the Innyard Games at the Renaissance Pleasure Faire and Kate's Place at the Dickens Christmas Faire.


The Library and the East Bay Regional Park District are two things that Kay considers vital to the quality of life in this area; therefore, she volunteers for both. Besides her work for the Friends of the Castro Valley Library, she is active with the EBRPD as an Ambassador in their community outreach program.

Kay and Bob like to travel as much as possible, primarily to parks (regional, state, and national), where they hike and bike and see what other adventures they can find.

Kay works in the BookStore on Monday afternoons and any other time she is needed. If you're in the Library on Mondays, stop by the BookStore and say hello.



going away!! Ned continues to work tirelessly for the benefit of the Friends. Thank you Ned, and enjoy your short time away from an official board position.



Mark your calendars now—  
The Friends of the Castro Valley Library  
**Spring Book Sale** is  
Friday April 11 - 6—8 p.m.  
(Member Preview)  
Saturday April 12 - 10 a.m.—4 p.m.  
Sunday April 13 - 1—4 p.m. (Bag Day)

This sale includes our usual large selection of fiction and mystery books, many categories of nonfiction, and antiquarian and special price books.

**At least 300 cartons of books will be available.**  
You will be glad you came!

**Volunteers are needed for all 3 days.**  
**Contact us at 510-733-3285 or *Friends.CVL@gmail.com***  
**A sign-up sheet will be available in the Friends office approximately one month prior to the book sale date.**

*Please remember to bring your 2013-14 Friends of the Castro Valley Library membership card in order to take advantage of your discount. The discount for this sale will be \$2.00 per member (valid on Friday & Saturday only).*

**THE BOOK SALE SCHEDULE FOR 2014 IS:**

**SPRING: April 11-13**  
**SUMMER: August 22-24**  
**FALL/WINTER: December 5-7**

**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!**

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**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](http://www.aclibrary.org) for more information.

**BOOKSTORE HOURS**

**Monday** 12 noon to 5:30 p.m.  
**Tuesday** 12 noon to 7:30 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](mailto:Friends.CVL@gmail.com) for more information.

**FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD**

Jane Kraut, President  
Ginger Russell, Vice President  
Sheila Keisner & Joan King, Co-Treasurers  
Kay Wetherwax, Secretary  
Robert Souza, Director-at-Large  
(vacant), Director-at-Large

**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. The February meeting has been cancelled. The next regular meeting date is in May. *Circle of Friends* is published quarterly. Please check your newsletter or our website for upcoming meeting dates and other events.

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**925-829-7750**

**Friends of the Castro Valley Library**  
**3600 Norbridge Avenue**  
**Castro Valley CA 94546**  
[www.aclibrary.org](http://www.aclibrary.org)

**RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED**

TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

