



CIRCLE OF FRIENDS

Friends of the Castro Valley Library
May 2015

PLEASE CHECK THIS NEWSLETTER OR OUR WEBSITE FOR MEETINGS AND OTHER EVENTS.



PRESIDENT'S REPORT

Sunday, April 19, 2015 was a special day for the Friends. It was bag day for our April Sale which means the last day and a joyous wrap-up. Many Friends of Castro Valley Library volunteered to ensure that the sale ran smoothly and was a success. A special thanks to Ned and Carol Lyke for their capable leadership. The book sale is an intense work effort of about five days of moving books and tables, arranging the books and media for sale, helping customers, facilitating transactions, counting money, and cleaning up. One of the reasons the Book Sales run smoothly is the ongoing work by the BookStore volunteers and the volunteers who keep the storage area organized and move books from the store to the storage facility. Income from the book sales and the book store directly support our beautiful Castro Valley Library.

In addition to our regular BookStore hours and tri-annual book sales, we hold occasional sales focusing on a specific genre. Soon we will have a science fiction sale and a multimedia sale. The dates have not been set, so check the website for an announcement.

Soon we will be forming a nominating committee. Serving on the board is a wonderful way to learn more about the Friends. If you are interested in being more involved in the activities of the Friends please join us at a board meeting – the fourth Tuesday of each month in the café area of the library, 9:30 am. Next meeting: May 26, 2015.

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 volunteers. If you are not a volunteer yet, stop by the store and pick-up a volunteer form (see Page 3 for information on volunteer opportunities). I extend my heartfelt thanks to all of you who make this organization work.

Jane Kraut, President
Friends of the Castro Valley Library

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 (See page 2 for more info):

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.)*
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.
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.
Preschool Game Time, Thursdays thru May 28th 11:00 a.m.-12:30 p.m.

Partial List of Events Coming Up in May

5/4 6:30-8:00 p.m. Paws to Read
5/5 12:15-1:00 p.m. Tuff Tumblers
5/5 7:00-7:30 p.m. Pajama Time—Local Heroes Read (every Tuesday in May, for children ages 3 to 6.)
5/5 7:00-8:00 p.m. Native Bees Lecture
5/7 10:30-11:30 a.m. Storyteller John Weaver
5/9 10:00 a.m.-2:30 p.m. SAT Practice Test
5/9 10:30 a.m.-11:45 a.m. Yoga for Beginners
5/9 2:00-3:30 p.m. Intro to Ba Ji Quan
5/12 3:00-5:00 p.m. Cal Fresh Enrollment Clinic
5/14, 5/21, 5/28, 10:00-10:30 a.m. OR 10:45-11:15 a.m. Musical Storytime AND 11:15 a.m.-12:00 noon Stay and Play
5/14 12:00 noon-2:00 p.m. Interview Skills Workshop
5/16 11:00 a.m.-12:00 noon Uncle Jer's Bee Show
5/16 2:00-4:00 p.m. Sewing 101 Workshop
5/19 6:00-8:00 p.m. Start Smart Teen Driving
5/22 6:30 p.m. Jenny Lin Memorial Service and Candlelight Walk
5/23 2:00-3:30 p.m. Discover Taiwan: Tour Taiwan
5/26 6:30-8:00 p.m. SAT Practice Test Follow Up & Test Strategies

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 25th for Memorial Day
Saturday 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.

MESSAGE FROM THE LIBRARY MANAGER

By Carolyn Moskowitz

First some good news—we are very close to being fully staffed at the Library for the first time in many years. The funding needed to make renovations to the café in order to open it with an expanded menu has been secured. And we are moving forward in our plans to install an ipad/laptop kiosk and expect that to be in place hopefully by summer. These are all things that I talked about as goals for 2015 and they are in process.

In May we will be offering a series of special story times. Local heroes, in full uniform will be here as part of our pajama time story hour every Tuesday evening in May. Police, Paramedics and Firefighters are not only brave, but they know the importance of reading. The event will take place in the Children's room and will begin at 7 p.m.

Our Tuesday movie matinees have really taken off. Because of the AV upgrade that the Friends funded last year we are able to show high quality films. At the end of March, we had over a hundred people come and enjoy "The Theory of Everything". At the end of April we showed "Unbroken". Future films scheduled to air include "American Sniper" and "Into the Woods". The movie matinees go on at 1 pm the last Tuesday of each month.

Another extremely popular class we have added is a senior safe driving class. In partnership with the California Highway Patrol, we will be offering a class once a month. A benefit of taking this class is that many insurance companies will give seniors discounts on their insurance premiums once they have taken the class. Registration is required, so if you are interested, please stop by the information desk or give us a call.

We are excited to announce a local Castro Valley author fair in June. We ask that authors be local and have at least one published book. To date 30 local authors have signed up to participate. We were surprised and delighted to find that there were so many local authors here in Castro Valley. The Fair will allow the authors to meet people, including each other, and sell books. The Friends will be providing light refreshments, and we will be giving away some great raffle prizes as well. We are hoping this can turn into an annual event.

And finally, I am sad to report that one of staff members, Thomas Gomes, passed away unexpectedly in April. Thomas was a fine gentleman—witty, funny and very smart. He was a fabulous employee and a good friend. He will be missed by all.

LITTLE FREE LIBRARIES COME TO CASTRO VALLEY

By Renee Hermosa, Library Page

Little Free Libraries have been springing up all over the world, and at least two can now be found in Castro Valley neighborhoods. A Little Free Library is, at its most basic, a box of books where anyone can stop by, peruse the selection, and take a book or two with them. The concept of "take a book, leave a book" ensures that the selection changes and remains interesting.

Library Staff had heard of the Little Free Library movement and discussed how it might be implemented locally. When I took the idea to a Board meeting of the Greenridge-Coldwater Area Association, it was met with great enthusiasm, and a \$35 check to register the yet-unplanned box was issued on the spot.

The next step was to find a builder. A neighborhood resident (and library patron) offered to build the box in the Eichler style of the surrounding homes. Another neighbor offered a space on her property to locate the box, and yet another did the painting and offered to serve as steward to monitor the library. The Friends of the Castro Valley Library generously donated a selection of starter books. Within about six weeks, the library was installed, stocked, officially registered, and open for business!



According to the organization's website, www.littlefreelibraries.org, there are approximately 20,000 libraries in over 56 countries worldwide. The organizers were inspired by many ideas, including:

- Andrew Carnegie's support of 2,509 free public libraries around the world;
- The heroic achievements of Miss Lucie Stearns, a librarian who brought books to nearly 1,400 locations through "traveling little libraries" around Wisconsin between 1895 and 1914;
- Take a Book, Leave a Book collections in many public places and coffee shops;
- Grassroots empowerment movements in many countries worldwide.

The official website contains all the information needed to start your own Little Library or to locate one near you. You can also find a map showing all the registered sites worldwide so you can check them out when traveling. Current Castro Valley locations are on Crown Court, just off Greenridge Road, and on Shady Springs Road off of Grove Way. Stop by, take a look, and take a book if you're in the area.

CIRCLE OF FRIENDS, PAGE 3

BE AN ACTIVE PART OF THE FRIENDS!

The Friends are looking for new friends to help us coordinate with the greater Castro Valley community. Various positions and responsibilities are available. They include:

Public Relations:

- Members of business or community groups to represent the Friends of the Castro Valley Library in addition to their personal membership.
- School personnel or another volunteer to distribute information to the public schools regarding the CV Education Foundation's funding of books used in the classroom and the availability of good quality, inexpensive books to use as classroom gifts or prizes.
- Volunteer to write news releases for local papers, websites, and Facebook to publicize Friends' activities.

Community Outreach:

- Volunteer to coordinate donations of books to local special groups, residential homes, and specified non-profits.
- Volunteer to develop and/or continue managing "mini-bookstores" in coffee houses or other local businesses who may be receptive to the idea.

If you are interested in any of the above, please contact the Volunteer Coordinator through our website at www.friendsofcvlibrary.org, email FriendsCVL@gmail.com, or call us at (510)733-3285..

I find television very educational. The minute someone turns it on, I go to the library and read a book.

Groucho Marx

THANK YOU FOR YOUR GENEROUS DONATIONS!

The Friends of the Castro Valley Library appreciate your generous donations of books, CDs, DVDs, and other media. Funds generated from the sale of these items pay for many library programs and amenities that could not otherwise be offered.

We generally accept all types of adult and children's fiction and nonfiction books in good condition, except that we *cannot* accept encyclopedias or other sets of books, condensed books, or textbooks older than 3 years. We also cannot accept books that have gotten damp, moldy, dirty, or smoky. We do accept audio books and other media (DVDs, CDs); however, we can no longer accept VHS tapes other than Disney films. We also accept magazines that are up to six months old. A complete list of donation guidelines is available at the Friends office or on our website.

Where do your books go? The very best quality books are sold in our BookStore inside the Castro Valley Library. Our store carries newer fiction, classic literature, and most categories of nonfiction. Most books that are not chosen for the store are kept at our offsite storage and brought back for our periodic book sales. Books that are not acceptable for sale for one reason or another are recycled. At the end of each book sale, the leftover books are donated to St. Vincent DePaul, the County jail, or another worthy cause. Books that have special value may be listed for sale on Amazon.com (see page 5).

Thank you for your generosity! None of this would be possible without your donations!

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:

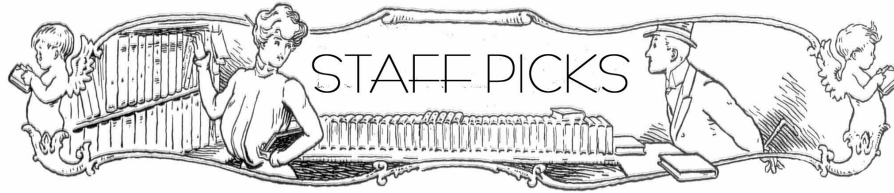
- ☐ Book store ☐ Sales events ☐ Membership ☐ Publications

**FOR OFFICE
USE ONLY:**

Card Issued

By _____

Date: _____



Being Mortal: Medicine and What Matters in the End by Atul Gawande (2014 nonfiction): Harvard-trained surgeon, best-selling author, MacArthur Fellow, Atul Gawande is an eloquent, insightful, respectful and down-to-earth writer. A practicing surgeon, he freely admits in his opening sentence, “I learned about a lot of things in medical school, but mortality wasn’t one of them.” Dr. Gawande’s focus is on quality of life, giving meaning and purpose to one’s life right up until the time of death. The reader follows his journey as he learns and hones his skills to help guide patients and their families to attain the best possible life as defined by each individual. Although dealing with weighty matters, his style is an easy one which captures the reader’s attention and easily guides it through difficult situations. With current media focus on these issues, this book provides insightful and helpful information on palliative care and ways to live as fully as one wishes for the remainder of one’s life. An important, uplifting, and life-affirming read for everyone. (Available in the CV Library in hardback copy and also in large print and e-book versions.) (Carol Lyke)

Saving Baby by JoAnne Normile (2014 nonfiction). In the mid-1990’s, JoAnne Normile made a bargain to oversee the birth and raising of a foal. She fell in love with the Thoroughbred colt, which she nicknamed “Baby,” and was ultimately allowed by the breeder to keep him – providing she raced him.

This is the story of Normile’s involvement in the “Sport of Kings,” one that would tragically take Baby from her and spark the founding of the most successful horse rescue in the country. Horseracing is by and large all about the money and not very much about the plight of the horse. After losing Baby to a poorly maintained track, Normile began a crusade, not only to improve the conditions at the facility, but also to rescue from the slaughterhouse the Thoroughbreds that became injured, too old to compete, or just didn’t win. This story is grim in many respects, but in the end, Normile is able to triumph and found two rescue organizations, her original CANTER for Thoroughbreds, and Saving Baby Equine Charity, which rescues all types of horses and finds new homes for them. This is a captivating book, particularly for horse lovers, and it draws the reader’s attention to an



extremely worthwhile cause. (An excerpt from this book was recently published in the *Reader’s Digest*.) Recommended. (Ginger Russell)

Sycamore Row by John Grisham (2014 fiction): This is not only an enjoyable read, told at a rocketing zigzag pace, but also a haunting, harrowing family saga. The legal framework is that of a holographic will, the simplest and most powerful testamentary device. Seth Hubbard writes his will, hangs himself, and leaves it to attorney Jake Brigance to see that his wishes are carried out and justice done. Seth’s family, needy and avaricious, is introduced to us by way of his testamentary wish – *may they perish in pain, like me*. Jake’s team is assembled for the struggle to show Seth’s competence. A magnificent set of Shakespearean characters, Southern lawyers, black and white, is brought to life in Judge Reuben Atlee’s courtroom, representing Seth’s Dickensian relatives. Grisham, an attorney, lampoons his legal brothers but respects the bedrock principles of equity and fairness. Atlee steers the case steadily, right down to the wire. All hinges on a Hubbard relative, lost for decades, entitled to a small fraction of Seth’s bequest and located either too late or in the nick of time. Grisham brings his rollercoaster ride to a shocking, surprising, but ultimately satisfactory conclusion. (Martin Waldron)

Fire and Air: A Life on the Edge by Patty Wagstaff (1997 Nonfiction). Within five years of earning her pilot’s license, and only three years after her first aerobatic lesson, Patty Wagstaff achieved a place on the United States aerobatic team. In less than fourteen years, she became the first woman to win the U.S. Aerobatic Championship, a feat she repeated in three consecutive years. This book chronicles Patty Wagstaff’s life, from her difficult childhood in the 1950’s and 1960’s, to her success in the demanding sport of aerobatic flying. While this autobiography is entertaining and personal, it is also highly technical in terms of the aircraft, how to fly, and the actual physics and engineering involved in making the plane perform all those maneuvers. It is a story of overcoming adversity and succeeding beyond most people’s wildest dreams and capabilities. Recommended for fans of airplanes and air shows. (Ginger Russell)



AVAILABLE ON AMAZON.COM



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

You Learn By Living, Eleanor Roosevelt, 1960: \$40
Milton Avery, Hobbs & Kramer, 1990: \$125
Monster's Lunchbox, Marc Brown, 1995: \$25
La Cuisine Est Un Jeu D'Enfants, Oliver, 1965: \$65
Kurtis Kraft Midget, Bill Montgomery, 1999: \$89
Hop-Up, first 15 issues, Mark Morton, 2002: \$59
Flower Folk, Anne Bicknell, 1936: \$50
Dangerous or Endangered, J. Tilton, 2010: \$23
In Old California, Edith K. Fox, 1927: \$33
The Courageous Princess, Rod Espinosa, 2007: \$77
The Arabian Nights Entertainments, Leatherbound edition, Burton & Szyk, 1981: \$38
Dancing With the Devil, Jose E. Limon, 1994: \$23
Watch Repairer's Manual, H.B. Fried, 1949: \$44

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!

REVIEWS WANTED!

Have you read a book, seen a film or television program, or listened to a music album that you loved? Share it with others by writing a review for *Circle of Friends*. Reviews may be submitted at any time by dropping off a written copy at the Friends' BookStore inside the Library or emailing to us at Friends.CVL@gmail.com. We will print as many as space allows. Thanks!

CHECK OUT OUR BOOKSTORE MONTHLY THEMES!

By Marie Blackmon

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



May: Mmmmm. May Day History, Celebrate Mom, and honor our Military for Armed Forces Day and Memorial Day. Also Cinco de Mayo, and Asian-American/Pacific Islanders!

June: LGBT Pride Month, wave Old Glory on Flag Day, Native American Citizens, and Juneteenth (Freedom or Emancipation Day).

July: Independence Day, Weddings and Honeymoons, Stay Cool with National Ice Cream Month, Travel.

August: More Summer Vacations, Sit Up and Beg for Dog Days, Honor Local Writers (how many can you name???)



FINANCIAL REPORT

By Barbara Kissling, Co-Treasurer

Thanks to a terrific group of volunteers and continued support from the community, we had another successful book sale in April, taking in nearly \$3,000.



We are proud to generate funds in order to provide financial assistance as needed for the library and its many events, programs, and activities.

I am still encouraged to go on. I wouldn't know where else to go.

- E.B. White



THANK YOU CORNER

By Jane Kraut, President

We have just completed a very successful book sale (about \$3,000); if you missed it save the dates for our August sale: August 21 – 23, 2015. If you have never volunteered for the Friends, a book sale is a great place to start. You will meet many amazing, hardworking volunteers, and who knows—some may become life-long friends. BookStore volunteers regularly volunteer for the sales; the board also works hard on the sale as well as a large number of volunteers whose unique gifts ensure the success of the tri-annual sales. Many volunteers, including Sue Choquette, Priscilla Kalish, Sue Waldron, and others, were ever present and worked in every capacity at the sale.

Once again the Interact Club of Castro Valley High School provided many volunteer hours. Interact's stated purpose is: *To serve our community as much as possible and to place "service above self"*. Congratulations and thank you to the many students who put in many hours of hard work on Thursday and Sunday. You are true to your purpose.

A special shout-out to Trader Joe's of Castro Valley, for their generous donation of bags (over 600) for our bag sale on Sunday. Trader Joe's has been a regular supporter of the Friends for many years. Thank you Trader Joe's!

There are two other groups that make the sale work, the donors and the buyers. **It wouldn't happen without the support of the community.**

While teaching at a veterinary college, I ordered a few books for our library. One was George Orwell's *Animal Farm*. When I went to take it out, I discovered that the librarian had placed the book in the section for dairy and poultry.

- Jacob Cheeran, Thrissur, India

MEET YOUR FRIENDS Roger Caswell

Roger Caswell is a Rhode Island native, who grew up on an island in Narragansett Bay and commuted to school via ferry boat. He worked his way through the University of Rhode Island, where he earned a mechanical engineering degree. He held various engineering positions in the east and then moved west for his wife's graduate work, finally becoming a mechanical engineer for the Naval Aviation Depot at NAS Alameda. As the various local military bases closed, Roger then became involved in environmental cleanup and discovered a wealth of information regarding the sources of contamination, some of which was not related to the military's use of the land. Someday, he would like to compile all of this information into a comprehensive study. (What an interesting project! Go for it, Roger!)



Having grown up on an island, Roger is a consummate sailor, having had a small sailboat at Berkeley and then a rowing boat which he used to explore shallow water all over the Bay. He has also enjoyed car and motorcycle camping throughout the western states, Canada, and Baja. He has taken trips to Hawaii and Alaska, a Panama Canal cruise, and a European trip and is looking forward to more.

Roger has lived in Castro Valley for 17 years. He retired five years ago after 42 years as an engineer, and was recruited into the Friends by Ned Lyke in 2012. Roger is a valuable volunteer at book sales and also serves as a Member-at-Large on the Friends' Board. You can meet Roger at any of our three annual book sales, at a Board meeting, or contact him through the Friends office.

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.



Mark your calendars now—
The upcoming Book Sales are on the following dates:

AUGUST 21—23
DECEMBER 4—6

As always, these sales 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.

We anticipate having over 300 cartons of books at each 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
Friends of the Castro Valley Library
membership card in order to
take advantage of your \$2.00 discount.
Not a member? You can join at the door or
purchase a membership ahead of time.
(See page 3 for details.)

**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 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 for more information.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOARD

Jane Kraut, President
Sara Accornero, Vice President
Melanie Courchaine and
Barbara Kissling, Co-Treasurers
Kay Wetherwax, Secretary
Roger Caswell, Director-at-Large
Elizabeth McCune, 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

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.

Printed by:

Acclaim Print and Copy Center
6345 Scarlett Court., Dublin CA 94568
925-829-7750.

Friends of the Castro Valley Library
3600 Norbridge Avenue
Castro Valley CA 94546
www.aclibrary.org

RETURN SERVICE REQUESTED

TIME-SENSITIVE MATERIAL

