





Vol. 1 No. 7 April 15 2018

Support Measure D with Your Vote and Your Advocacy!



We all know that our Oakland Public Libraries are a vital community resource. They provide a safe after-school space for our children and teenagers and provide resources that enable students to succeed.

As budget cuts have shortened the hours for their school libraries, students are relying on our public

libraries now more than ever. However, years of underfunding and rising costs threaten our ability to provide safe after-school spaces for teens, literacy services for children and adults, and important early-childhood reading programs for our youngest Oaklanders.

To protect our libraries, city leaders and library advocates have placed Measure D on the June 5, 2018 ballot. All registered Oakland voters will be eligible to vote on the measure, and it will require a two-thirds yes vote to prevail.

Without Measure D, our libraries face further closures. With Measure D, we can expand library hours to allow students, seniors, and working families to access library services throughout the week.

What will Measure D do?

- Prevent library closures and extend evening and weekend hours to better accommodate students, seniors and working families.
- Provide safe places for children and teens to do their homework and participate in after-school programs.
- Maintain youth reading programs.
- Keep libraries safe and welcoming.
- Provide literacy services.

How are taxpayers protected?

- Measure D will enact a parcel tax of only \$75 per year and include exemptions for low-income seniors and very low-income households.
- An oversight committee comprised of community members will ensure that funds are spent properly to support our libraries.
- Measure D will sunset after 20 years.
- Funds will be subject to ongoing audits.

How can I help the campaign?

Measure D will need 2/3 of the vote on June 5, and we'll need your help getting there! Here's how you can help:

- 1. VOTE YES ON MEASURE D!
- 2. Request a yard/window sign through the campaign web site,

www.ProtectOaklandLibraries.org.

- 3. Publicly endorse Measure D on the campaign web site and tell your friends why you're voting YES.
- 4. Volunteer to support Measure D. We'll need volunteers four nights a week to make phone calls to undecided voters, and we have other volunteer opportunities as well
- 5. VOTE YES ON MEASURE D! It's the most important, so we've listed it twice.

For more information, visit **www.ProtectOaklandLibraries.org** or e-mail **ProtectOaklandLibraries@gmail.com**.

Michelle Rosenthal is Our New Librarian



New Leadership

As you know, our friend and Branch Manager since July, Pat Toney has moved into her new position as the Children's Outreach Librarian in Oakland, and now we are welcoming Michelle Rosenthal, MLIS. As of April 3rd, Michelle moved from manager of the Lakeview Branch to be the Branch Manager for Piedmont Avenue. She brings ten years of experience, five as Branch Manager at both Melrose and Lakeview. We are especially lucky to have her with us because she knows our neighborhood and is passionate

about providing a wide access to services at our libraries. Outreach is one of her top priorities.

Before she became a librarian, she said that she used the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library at its 41st St location. We expect her to be a wonderful advocate for a new permanent branch.

When you meet Michelle, ask her about *Bells & Chimes*, her team in the Women's Pinball (yes, pinball) League.



The Book Worm Recommends

Spider Woman's Daughter

by Anne Hillerman

Visiting the Beautiful Southwest with Interesting, Congenial People

Tony Hillerman wrote 18 enjoyable mystery novels about two Navajo policemen—an older man, more oriented to modern ways, Joe Leaphorn, and his younger, more traditional lieutenant, Jim Chee. Hillerman's daughter Anne has continued their story with a twist. Her four novels focus on Chee's wife, Bernie, who is also a skilled Navajo police officer as well as a caring wife and daughter.

In *Spider Woman's Daughter*, Bernie faces a mystifying event. As she and Leaphorn leave a restaurant, a young man suddenly shoots Leaphorn and races away. While Leaphorn lies unconscious in a Santa Fe hospital, a team of FBI agents and local law enforcement officers is pulled together to discover who shot him, and why.

On the reservation, the FBI has authority over certain types of crime and access to good laboratory facilities, but the Navajo police understand the motivations of local people, tracking methods in desert areas, and local events from present and past. In this case, solving the crime requires a detailed knowledge of the illicit trade in Indian artifacts such as ancient Acoma pots and a familiarity with the people who buy, sell, and sometimes fake these ancient items.

Identifying the shooter also requires an officer who can follow a killer's trail along the rocky cliffs of Chaco Canyon. Although tension exists between investigating agencies, in the end the local police guide the FBI officers through complex clues to a clear conclusion.

The novel shines with beautiful descriptions of the Southwest and with insights into the lives and history of the characters. Even as the investigators pursue the criminals, they do so across the wide-open spaces of New Mexico and Arizona and through the lovely streets of Santa Fe. The author makes us wish we were there when she lovingly describes a glowing weaving in an art museum, the dramatic design of a building, and even the flowers outside a gallery. The descriptions of the people are just as captivating.

We see some of the Navajo characters struggle with computer technology and college application forms, and, through the same characters, we come to appreciate their artistic traditions and the beauty of the natural world. Other characters have found that living in the Southwest offers access to ideas and interests that intrigue them. All in all, it is a pleasure to be inside the world of this story!

Wednesdays at 10:15am — **Toddler Storytime**Wednesdays at 11:00am — **Pre-School Storytime**Fridays at 3:30pm — **Lego Mania is now Build Fridays**Saturdays at 10:30am — **Baby Café**Saturdays at 2:30pm — **eBook Help**



Events in April

Saturday April 21st at 1 pm – Henna Workshop For Adults.

Learn about the ancient art of henna. Tattoos are temporary, but will last for 8 to 10 days. Space for this workshop is limited and advance sign-ups are required. Sign-up in the library or call the librarian (597-5011) and put your name on the list.

Tuesday April 24th 6 pm – How to Draft Your Will

This workshop, in the Financial Education series sponsored by Habitat for Humanity, is all about estate planning and wills. With the presenter, Stuart Bronstein, you can write and execute your own will –write it, sign it and make it legally binding. Bronstein is a lawyer who practices in San Francisco.

Thursday April 26th 6 pm - Friends of the Piedmont Avenue Branch Library Join the Friends to discuss how we can support our library. Decide what programs we should fund and plan our future actions as Library Advocates.

Saturday April 28th 1 pm – Berkeley Rep Docent Talks About Angels in America Part 1

Delve into Tony Kushner's Pulitzer Prize - and Tony Award-winning masterpiece. Originally commissioned by the Eureka Theatre in San Francisco, it was first staged 26 years ago, but is as timely as ever in today's sociopolitical climate. It is a fierce and astounding drama -- at once an epic exploration of American politics, gay identity, and mythology, and a masterful personal story of love and loyalty.

All these activities and events take place at the <u>Piedmont Avenue Branch</u> 80 Echo Avenue, Oakland CA 94611

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