

# FRIENDS OF THE GLENDALE PUBLIC LIBRARY



news

SPRING 2011

Vol. 16, No. 4

Editor: Stanley L. Block, M.D.

## WHAT ARE FRIENDS FOR?

*Editor's Note:* This article is the second in a series that the *Newsletter* is featuring to inform the membership about the specific programs and activities that the Friends of the Glendale Public Library support. The Fall/Winter issue featured the Central Branch. In this, the Spring/Summer Issue, we feature the Montrose Branch. With words and pictures, we hope to tell you more about "What Friends Are For."

When speaking about bringing families together, Tiffany Barrios, Branch Manager at Montrose beams. Together with Jennifer Boyce, the Branch's Children's Librarian, and with the support of funds provided by the Friends, they have instituted several family oriented programs for which they are justly proud.

Each year, the branch hires Summer Reading Program performers. For six weeks, on Tuesday nights, the Branch offers an evening snack, followed by an hour of fun that both children and adults enjoy. Last summer, programs included Mad Science, Bubblemania, Painting with artist Fazad Kohan, Music with Craig Newton, the Moodoo Puppets, a visit to the local Fire House, and a Magic Show featuring Allen Oshiro from the famed Magic Castle.

This programming has become increasingly popular. On average, some 100 patrons attended each of this past summer's programs. This was a 46% increase in attendance over the previous summer.

The evening provides a wonderful opportunity to inform patrons of other activities that the Library

provides. To that end, a team of high school volunteers is present at each of the performance nights to market other events and programs at the Library.

The "family affair" does not stop when summer is over! During the school year (from October to June) the Branch offers various free, monthly programs. For example, a Family Cooking Class that involves all ages.



The emphasis is on nutrition and ties cooking into books. All members of the class, kids and parents alike, participate in the reading and the cooking.

The program is possible because the Friends contribute funds for purchasing the cooking ingredients for each of the sessions.

Sonia Chung, a credentialed elementary teacher, frequently teaches at the Crescenta-Canada YMCA. Chef Sonia has graciously volunteered her services to lead the program at Montrose. The class is limited to 20 persons because of space limitations.

Wouldn't you like to be one of the lucky twenty to participate in this creative program initiated and led by Chef Sonia? Perhaps you will console yourself knowing that your support makes these programs available to our community.

**Isn't that what  
friends are for?**



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## PRESIDENT'S CORNER

By John Steele, President



In general, we tend to think of libraries as quiet places where we can go to study, check out a book, or read a magazine or newspaper. And this public face is the one we usually see when we go to our local branch.

Underneath this seemingly placid surface, however, libraries are in a fight for their very existence, at least in the form we now know them. For example, the union which represents LAPD officers has come out strongly against Measure L, an item on the March 8 ballot in the City of Los Angeles, which would set aside funding for the Los Angeles Public Library system.

The measure, proposed by Councilman Bernard Parks, would increase the percentage of property tax that automatically goes to the library system. The measure would take effect gradually over four years and would restore full six day service. The union's opposition is based on its possible impact on the police budget as the measure would not raise taxes thus possibly requiring cuts to other services paid for by the city's general fund.

Meanwhile, in Northern California, the San Joaquin Board of Supervisors and the Stockton City Council both approved a new agreement which will preserve a hybrid arrangement whereby the city contracts with the county to run the Stockton-San Joaquin Public Library. A private, for-profit company (Library Systems & Services, LLC) had made overtures to manage the 12-branch system.

"Libraries are the foundation of our democracy. We are proud of our local leaders for saying no to privatizing our public libraries" said the president of the Friends of the Stockton Library. The chair of a local citizen's coalition said "We hope that other organizations will stand up and fight against the privatization of public libraries in their communities."

All of this activity points to the need for local jurisdictions to provide adequate funding for their library systems. This is especially true in light of the current budget shortfall faced by the State of California. It would appear that an increasing burden will be placed on local governments to fund programs formerly financed by the state. This, in turn, could require that residents express their opinions both to their elected representatives and at the ballot box.

Stay tuned!

## HELP US FIND A FRIEND

We invite you to help us increase our membership by 10% in the next three months. We are asking for your help. If you are not now a member, you can help us meet our goal for as little as \$10.00 (student/senior); \$20.00 (individual) or \$40.00 (family).

As a member, you will receive all notification of programs, receive the Friends *Newsletter*, and get a whopping 20% discount on purchases at the Book Nook... And...you will have the satisfaction of knowing that your donation is helping to maintain the

services provided to our community by our wonderful Library.

If you are already a member, please consider asking a friend, relative or neighbor about joining. Offer them an application and urge them to join us.

Applications can be found in numerous locations at Central Library and all Library Branches..

Bree Moseley,  
Membership

## FROM THE LIBRARY DIRECTOR

By Cindy Cleary

Libraries play a varied and dynamic role in our community. To this end we recently initiated the first step in the development of a comprehensive strategic plan. Close to one-hundred community members gathered at Central Library to join in a conversation about what makes Glendale a great place and reflect upon how the Library can best align itself with community aspirations. It was an energetic evening that resulted in the identification of several community priorities where the library plays a leading role: Education, Arts and Culture, Inclusion, Glendale Identity through a Vibrant Downtown and Civic Spaces, Technology Infrastructure, and Efficiency in Government. Our next step is to review existing services, assess the sustainability of each service, determine innovative approaches to match community priorities, and develop a work plan that will give us the tools to move forward. This process will assist us in making decisions in a difficult budget climate. Please join the one-hundred community members who gave us their input and complete a questionnaire at [www.glendalepubliclibrary.org](http://www.glendalepubliclibrary.org)

Speaking of budgets the Glendale Public Library may lose substantial State funding if the Governor's budget proposals move forward. At stake is \$70,000 annually from the Public Library Fund which supports purchase of books and other materials that you enjoy when you visit your library. An additional \$100,000 may be cut limiting our ability to loan and receive books from other library jurisdictions. Currently over 100,000 items, otherwise unavailable, are loaned and borrowed. Additionally, if the governor's proposal to dismantle Redevelopment Agencies is realized the funding for a Central Library renovation may be lost. While our City Council has voted to protect Redevelopment funding that has already been allocated, there are no guarantees. Please contact your State officials if you are interested in expressing your opinion about these reductions in library service.

## IF YOU KEEP CHILDREN READING ALL SUMMER...

... they are more likely to maintain all that they learned during the last school year. They are apt to increase their vocabulary, writing and reading skills. They just might discover that reading is fun!

Children's Services is planning a fundraiser at the Chipotle restaurant on Glendale Avenue, right across from City Hall, to raise additional funds for the Summer Reading Program. You get a tasty lunch or dinner and the reading program gets 50% of your tab—a win/win for everyone. The date is not set yet but as soon as it is, you will hear from us. Hope to see you there!



## READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY?

Some of our Librarians and Library Patrons have been writing book reviews ...and they have generously agreed to share their opinions with the readers of the *NEWSLETTER*. You might pick up some books to add to your "To Read" list:

### TAKE ONE CANDLE LIGHT A ROOM

by Susan Straight

"Fantine Antoine, a travel writer, returns to her Southern California origins to mark the fifth anniversary of the murder of her closest childhood friend, Glorette. She finds herself pulled into the tumultuous life of Glorette's teenage son—and Fantine's godson—Victor, who, in his conflict, leads Fantine and others on a chase to New Orleans just before Katrina. This is not a direct sequel to her novel, *A Million Nightingales*, but is part of the series featuring some of the same characters.

Straight grew up in Riverside, immortalized as "Rio Seco" in her work, and is a professor at U C Riverside. Her first books were *Aquaboogie* and *I Been In Sorrow's Kitchen and Licked Out All the Pots*. Her 2001 novel, *Highwire Moon*, was a finalist for the National Book Award. Her writing is elegant in style and language, and yet approachable.

— Mary Alice Toomey, Librarian

### MARY CASSATT: A Life

by Nancy Mowell Mathews

A look at the different periods of Mary Cassatt's life as an artist. Comprehensive, and filled with pictures, this book is an excellent reading supplement to those studying the artist.

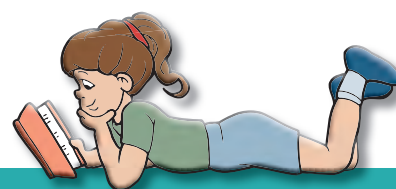
— Corinna Scott, patron of Glendale Central Library

### THE COMPLETE BOOK OF VEGAN

by Tony Weston

This cookbook is like a mini-encyclopedia or "The Joy of Cooking for Vegans." It is full of great ideas and recipes. Even omnivores will enjoy the ideas in this book.

— Taleen Janian, patron of Casa Verdugo Branch Library



## CENTRAL LIBRARY UPCOMING EVENTS

### SUSAN STRAIGHT

*Take One Candle Light A Room*

Thursday, March 17, 7:00 pm  
Central Library Auditorium

Award winning novelist Susan Straight's new book, *Take One Candle Light A Room*, is a compelling story of a family intertwined with the history of slavery and an old murder. The book features characters from her previous novels, and is set in Los Angeles, Rio Seco, and Louisiana. It was named a best novel of 2010 by the Washington Post and the LA Times.

Joyce Carol Oates has called Susan Straight, "a writer of exceptional gifts and grace." In addition to her work as a writer she has been a regular commentator on National Public Radio's All Things Considered. Ms. Straight teaches creative writing at UC Riverside. In 2008 she received the University's Distinguished Teaching Award.



### FRIENDS ANNUAL MEETING

Wednesday, May 18, 6:30 pm  
Central Library Auditorium

All Members of the Friends are invited to attend



**SPECIAL GUEST LIAN DOLAN**  
*Helen of Pasadena*

Wednesday, May 18, 7:00 pm  
Central Library Auditorium

A witty, timely and richly entertaining tale of a modern mother in transition, *Helen of Pasadena* is the LA Times bestseller that delivers humor, insight and

wisdom—and is, above all, a very fun read!

Lian Dolan is a writer, producer, talk show host, podcast pioneer and social media consultant. She writes the blog and produces the weekly podcast *The Chaos Chronicles*, a humorous look at modern motherhood that gets 50,000 downloads a month. She writes weekly for *Oprah.com* as a parenting expert. She is the creator of *Satellite Sisters*, a talk show, blog and website, with her four real sisters, and the co-author of *Satellite Sisters UnCommon Senses*, published by Riverhead. Her writing has appeared in national magazines, including regular columns in *O, The Oprah Magazine* and *Working Mother* and essays in such anthologies as *Chicken Soup for the Sister's Soul*. TV appearances have included *The Today Show*, *CBS Sunday Morning* and *The Oprah Winfrey Show*.

### AT THE LIBRARY

**NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK**  
is Fine Forgiveness Week • April 10 – 16

Overdue Glendale Public Library materials  
can be returned Fine FREE!

### TIGRAN MANSOURIAN

*The music of Komitas Vartapet*

Saturday & Sunday, April 16 & 17, 4:00 pm  
Central Library Auditorium

Internationally known composer and pianist Tigran Mansourian will discuss and perform the music of composer and musicologist Komitas Vartapet,



considered by many to be the founder of modern Armenian classical music.

The lecture will be in Armenian followed by Q&A. Admission is free. Library visitors receive 3 hours FREE parking across the street at the MarketPlace parking structure with validation at the loan desk. For more information call: 818.548.3288



### DR. ARTHUR C. BARTNER

*The Man on the Ladder: 40 Years of Dr. Arthur C. Bartner & The Spirit of Troy*

Thursday, April 21, 7:00 pm  
Central Library Auditorium

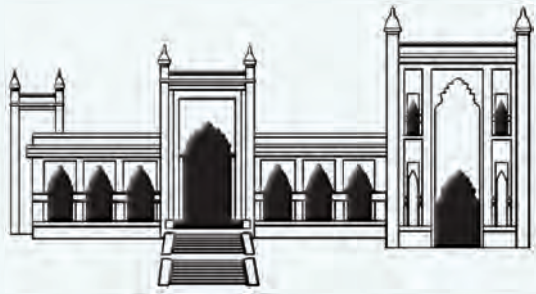
USC's respected marching band director Arthur Bartner discusses his book, a retrospective of his unprecedented four decade career at USC.

### ARMENIAN LANGUAGE BOOK SALE

Saturday, May 21, 10:00 am – 3:00 pm  
Presale for Friends members: 9:00 am  
Central Library Loading Dock

Bring your membership card to the cashier or purchase/renew your membership starting at \$20.00.

Sponsored by the Friends. For information call (818) 548-3288.



## BRAND LIBRARY & ART CENTER

### UPCOMING EVENTS

#### WALL POWER: LIMITLESS PRINTS

Curated by Cathy Weiss and Nancy Jo Haselbacher

On view: April 23 - June 3, 2011

Featuring: Mary Sherwood Brock, Nancy Jo Haselbacher, Emily Joyce, Poli Marichal, Sarah Pavsner, Cathy Weiss & Penny Young

#### TALKING ABOUT ART

Mark Steven Greenfield

Saturday, May 14, 2:00 pm

A new series sponsored by the Associates of Brand Library featuring prominent artists from the greater Los Angeles area discussing their artwork and careers and showing images of their work. Greenfield, the former director of the Watts Towers of Simon Rodia, will discuss his work.

#### ELEMENTAL HARMONY

Sunday, April 3, 3:00 pm

A cappella trio with members Ter Lieberstein, Sylvie Sarkissian and Kris Wildman

#### MARK ROBSON, PIANO LISZT BICENTENNIAL CONCERT

Sunday, May 1, 3:00 pm

*DON'T THROW  
YOUR BOOKS AWAY  
THROW THEM OUR WAY!*



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Center for Positive Parenting and Psychotherapy  
[Soheilanbyane@yahoo.com](mailto:Soheilanbyane@yahoo.com)

### Armenian Professional Society

P.O. Box 10306, Glendale, CA 91209

Kathleen Maureen O'Dea, Attorney at Law  
100 N Brand Blvd. 4th Fl., Glendale, CA 91203

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Arnolda C. Utrecht, Director  
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### Glendale Unified Schools

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*continued on page 6*

# TO ALL WHO CONTRIBUTE TO OUR LIBRARY... THANK YOU FOR BEING A FRIEND

*Book Lovers Level continued from page 5*

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## THE BOOK NOOK ~ Quality Books at Budget Prices .....

By Peter Breckheimer



Shop the Glendale Central Public Library Book Store facilities - tell all book-loving friends what a good book-buying deal We have here!

The Book Nook is located on the Main Floor of the Central Library

The Book Nook opens at noon everyday of the week and is open until 8:00pm M-F. The hours on Saturday are from 12 noon until 5:00pm. Sunday has special hours from 1:00pm until 4:00pm.

The Book Nook has new and used books, fiction & non-fiction, children's books, DVD's, CD's & VHS tapes for sale at very reasonable prices (typically between \$1 & \$5). We constantly add new arrivals to the collections in the Book Nook for your perusal. All items may be purchased from the volunteer at the desk inside the Book Nook. Come and visit us often.

### BOOK DONATIONS

We obtain our sale books from donations from the public. Our current donation policy is:

#### ITEMS THAT WE ACCEPT FOR SALE

- Materials in good condition;
- Fiction and non-fiction hardbacks and soft covers;
- Children's fiction, non-fiction, music, CDs, DVDs and VHS;
- Classic literature including paperbacks;
- DVDs, music CDs, cassette tapes and entertainment VHS.

#### ITEMS THAT WILL BE CONSIDERED FOR THE LIBRARY COLLECTION

- Local high school yearbooks;
- Rarities/art manuscripts;
- Local history;
- Genealogy.

#### ITEMS THAT WE WILL NOT ACCEPT

- Those having a bad smell – smoke, mildew, etc.;
- Dusty, moldy or water damaged material;
- Books with missing or torn pages or damaged spines;
- Damaged or incomplete audio-visual items;
- Computer, medical or textbooks older than three (3) years;
- Almanacs, encyclopedias or yearbooks;
- Video games or computer software
- Old magazines, journals, National Geographic, or Reader's Digests.

## FREE CHECKING AT CREDIT UNION

Truly free checking is fast disappearing, except at Glendale City Employees Federal Credit Union. It's *free* Basic Checking account comes with *free* access to more than 28,000 CO-OP ATMs nationwide.

Plus, the credit union offers a comprehensive selection of mortgages through its partnership with CU Members Mortgage. You get the value of a member-owned credit union and the choices offered by a respected national lender.

Choose from a huge selection of programs. And take advantage of convenient online services to calculate payments, prequalify, check daily rates, learn which of many options are best for you, sign up for Rate Alerts and even apply on-line.

Glendale's local credit union is member-owned, a longtime sponsor of Friends of the Library, and will pay for a year of your Friends Membership when you join the credit union. It offers a complete line of financial services including auto and consumer loans, checking and savings, mortgages and online banking.

For more information or to get started, drop by their office, call 818/ 548-3976, or visit them online.

One-time \$5 membership fee and \$25 opening deposit required.

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