

May 2024

FRIENDS OF THE TURLOCK PUBLIC LIBRARY NEWSLETTER



President's Message

by Mary Ward

Hello Friends!

It's hard to believe how quickly the months have gone by. April was an especially busy month for the Friends. On April 6th, The Library Presents! program hosted author Chris Bohjalian. It was a wonderful event and I would like to thank the Library Presents! committee for all their hard work organizing the event.

Then on April 13th, we celebrated the 30th anniversary of the Friend of the Turlock Public Library! Thank you to all the members who joined us for this celebration and to the committee who organized the event, decorated, and arranged the games and prizes. It was a wonderful celebration!

This month also marks the Friends return to the Turlock Farmer's Market. The Friends will be there one weekend a month giving away kids books and other book related items for the kids to enjoy. Additionally, Brooks Judd, who has organized and shepherded our booth at the Farmer's Market for many years has decided this will be his last year running this event for us. If anyone is interested in taking on the responsibility for the Farmer's Market, please contact me at ward_marye@yahoo.com or (925) 642-1681.

Our annual Friends meeting is June 5, 2024, at the Turlock Library Community room. All Friends members are welcome to attend as we recap the last year, vote on new board members, and review the budget for the coming year. Membership renewals for the 2024-2025 year are due July 1, 2024. Please consider renewing your membership and continuing to support the Friends.

Finally, I'd like to announce that the board has voted to rename The Library Presents! program to *In Remembrance of Pat Portwood The Library Presents!* in honor of her leadership and dedication to the program.

*The Friends
Annual
Meeting is
June 5, 2024
at 6:30 in the
Community
Room.*

FOTPL Bookstore

The bookstore hours are:

Monday 10 am - 4 pm

Tuesday 10 am - 4 pm

Wednesday 12 pm - 6 pm

Thursday 10 am - 4 pm

Friday 10am - 4 pm

Saturday 10 am - 4 pm

Sunday Closed

Board of Directors

President - Mary Ward

Vice President - Vacant

Treasurer - Mike Seifert

Secretary - Tracee Farlinger

Advocacy - Brooks Judd

Membership - Terri Shaver

Communications - Cecilia Garcia

Directors - At - Large:

Beth Bollinger

Julie Bradford

Penny Calkins

Jane Cluff

Debi Morgan

Sheila Younkin

From the Librarian's Desk

by Karina Mendoza

It's time to Read, Renew, Repeat at the Turlock Library! The Stanislaus County Library Summer Reading Challenge will begin on May 21 and run through August 6. There will be two separate reading challenges: one for kids 17 and under, and the other for adults 18 and older. Kids, or their parents, can log the days that they read on Beanstack to earn virtual tickets. The virtual tickets can be entered to win prizes that we'll raffle off at the end of the summer. We will be giving away a brand-new book for anyone who signs up for the 17 and under challenge. For the adult challenge, for every book that you read, log the title to earn a virtual ticket for a prized drawing. You could even earn a bonus ticket for writing a book review. There are a variety of amazing prizes for the 18 and over challenge, including a Disney themed Loungefly backpack, a coffee bundle with a Keurig coffee maker, and, my personal favorite, a night sky themed bundle with a telescope!

The summer months are always busy at the library. We try to offer a variety of fun-free activities for the community in addition to our regular programs. We will be celebrating the start of Summer Reading with an Outdoor Bubble Party on Tuesday May 21, 2024, at 4 pm. Join us as we blow GIANT bubbles on the south lawn of the library. Magician Shawn Durham will be performing on Saturday, May 25 at 3 pm. Space is limited, and we will be handing out free wristbands 30 minutes before the show while supplies last. Pint Sized Polkas will be making their Turlock Library debut on Saturday, June 29 at 3 pm. Come listen to popular children's songs reimagined into polka music. Modesto Children's Museum will be hosting a STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math) based program on Tuesday July 16 at 4 pm. The Master Gardeners will continue hosting their monthly gardening class on the fourth Wednesday of the month at 6 pm. They will be hosting their very popular Water Wise Landscaping Class on May 22, 2024. For more information on these and all our other programs we are offering, please visit our website at www.stanlibrary.org.

Stanislaus County Library is now offering Libby. The library reading app Libby, joins Cloud Library and Palace Project as one of the three library apps that allows you free access eBooks and audiobooks with your library card. eBooks are convenient way to always have a book at your fingertips. Just download the app or visit the website libbyapp.com. You will need your library card number and your pin, the last four digits of your phone number. If you have any questions on how to set up an account, download the app, or send the eBooks to your kindle device, please stop by the library and any staff member will be happy to help.

Donations Needed!

Puzzles are now being sold in the FOTPL Bookstore. If you have gently used puzzles, that you would like to donate, please email friendsofturlocklibrary2020@gmail.com

Puzzles should be in good condition, have all their pieces, and be stored in a ziploc bag in their original box.

Book donations are also needed. Adult hardback fiction, nonfiction, children's and young adult are particularly needed.

Please email friendsofturlocklibrary2020@gmail.com if you have books to donate.

Chris Bohjalian Captivated Audience of Avid Readers by Jane Cluff

Chris Bohjalian, held the bookish audience in the palm of his hand for an hour and a half on a recent Saturday afternoon with stories of how he became a writer and how his books and numerous articles were born.

The author displayed admirable grit at the beginning of his career, working full time at an ad agency in New York City, writing in the wee hours of the morning and receiving 250 rejection letters before a story was finally bought by Cosmopolitan magazine.

Lucky for us, he persisted, because his 20 plus page-turners have been published in over 30 languages and three have been converted to film. Bohjalian is a born storyteller and told many anecdotes as part of his beautifully crafted speech as well as in response to questions from the audience. One of my favorites was the origin story of *The Flight Attendant*; Bohjalian was waiting for a friend in a Manhattan bar, reflecting on the fact that he'd been in Armenia that morning, had flown home via a Russian airline and was about to have dinner eight time zones away from where he'd had breakfast. Suddenly, the Russian mob, international flight and "functioning" alcoholism together sounded like a possible novel, and he proceeded to write the first three pages on cocktail napkins in the 45 minutes before his friend arrived.

The FOTPL sold 40 books to attendees at the event and many of the buyers waited eagerly to chat with Bohjalian. The author took time to inscribe books thoughtfully and posed for many a photo.

We are grateful to our original Library Presents! Donors, Priscilla Peters and John Powers, who planted the first seed, and especially grateful to The Ralph Shabazian Memorial Trust which funded this event in particular.

On a final note, The Library Presents! Is joyfully morphing into *In Remembrance of Pat Portwood, The Library Presents!* in honor of an enthusiastic and dedicated champion of the program. Thank you, Pat!

We are Social!



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Our 30th Anniversary Celebration!

Photos by Debi Morgan



