



THE BUCKEYE BUILDING  
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Carmel Valley, CA 93924

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# OPEN BOOK

Newsletter of The Friends of the Carmel Valley Library Volume 21, No. 1 Summer 2020



We look forward to the front door being open again.

## We Need Your Support

Many of the local organizations that have given us grants in the past to help with special projects have had to cancel their annual fundraisers. At the same time, state and local governments are faced with many costs associated with the pandemic and the probability of cuts to library budgets is likely. Any extra funding that you, our regular donors, can provide will be greatly appreciated. We hope to continue working on branch enhancements and to help pay for extra books and postage needed during the shutdown to get the requested books to our patrons. Let us know if you prefer your donation to be used for the Carmel Valley branch only or for system wide assistance.

**The Buckeye Building**  
Post Office Box 248  
Carmel Valley, CA 93924  
831-659-2377

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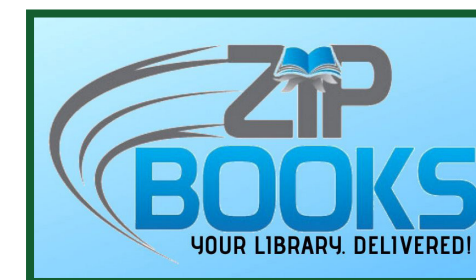
## Strategies for Changing Times

There is no doubt that we are in the midst of changing times, some happening so rapidly that parts of this newsletter will probably be out of date by the time it reaches your mailbox, but an update is worthwhile regardless.

Most of the Monterey County Free Library branches closed on March 16 to the public. A handful of branches, including the Carmel Valley Branch were staffed on March 17 doing last minute work and preparing the branch for a long-term closure. Immediately, the MCFL administration and branch staffs kicked into high gear working together to respond to the new shelter-in-place order with energy and creativity to provide the materials and services that the branch libraries normally provide.

## Resources for You

ZIP Books is a program that allows patrons to order books through the library that will be purchased by the library and sent directly to the users' homes with the request that the books be returned to a library branch when it re-opens. New digital library cards are available, and more titles of e-books and audiobooks are being purchased to meet the huge surge in demand. Staff is available online and by phone to assist patrons by finding resources, answering questions and helping with research or with navigating the digital media download process. Live tutoring service for all ages is available seven days of the week via BrainFuse.

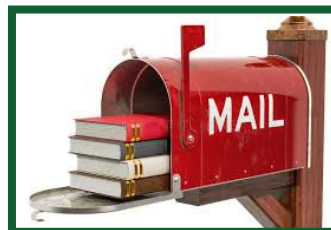


For quick links to the many resources available online through the library, go to the Friends website home page at <https://FOCVL.org>. You can also call and talk to a librarian (in English or Spanish) at 831-883-7555, Monday - Saturday 10am -6pm.

*The purpose of The Friends of the Carmel Valley Library is to maintain an association of persons interested in the Carmel Valley Branch Library; to foster community participation in, support for, and cooperation with the library in developing library services and facilities for the community, and to solicit and encourage gifts, endowments, and bequests.*



The Summer Reading Program is back!



## Update

Library by Mail is available now! You can find more information about Library by Mail at [www.emcfl.org](http://www.emcfl.org) or call library staff at 831-883-7555



## Update For Kids

The library is taking sign-ups for Summer Reading and Grab and Go Lunch now! More information can be found at: [www.emcfl.org](http://www.emcfl.org) or call library staff at 831-883-7555



## Carmel Valley Staff

For the most part, our staff members are working from home. Vanessa, Matthew and Sat are on the mask making team. Linda and Sat are on the homework center team. Linda, Vanessa, Matthew and Sat are working on the phone team. Vanessa is assisting at the COVID-19 testing site in Salinas. Eddy is on several teams (circulation, coastal branches, community needs) and coordinates his team's efforts across the various teams and special projects. In addition, Eddy is working on his presentation for the Internet Librarian conference held in October. Eddy presented last year at the conference and was invited back to present again this year. He will be presenting on the branch's successful Makerspace Fair program. A Makerspace Fair consists of individual, hands-on, mostly self-directed stations where exploration of STEAM subjects (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Mathematics) is encouraged and supported.

All members of our branch staff have special duties such as checking on the physical branch regularly, special research projects and monitoring communities' responses regarding COVID-19 impact, social media outreach via Facebook, and virtual programming. You can subscribe (no charge) to "MCFL Virtual Programming" on YouTube to watch over 40 videos of library programs and the list keeps growing. Finally, our branch team is doing online professional training and readings so that they will be ready to help our patrons when the branch reopens.

## What is Next?

*While nothing is set in stone, a probably soft re-opening will likely progress in the following manner:*

When some staff is allowed back to work in the branches, Library by Mail may resume sending requested books from the library collection to patrons' homes. **BOOKS BY MAIL** are sent to the user along with a prepaid return envelope. At a cost of \$8-12 per book, this is far more economical than ZIP Books as it uses books already in the collection. This program has been lightly used in the past by those who are homebound or located in remote places but will be expanded to fill the need for books during branch closures.

**Curbside Service** is the next logical step once staff is allowed back into the branch. Eddy is on the circulation team developing the Curbside Service program which is developing the program for the entire system, and the Carmel Valley Branch staff is working on the unique points to make it work efficiently at the branch.

It may be quite a while before the branch is open to unlimited numbers of users, but a **soft opening** might include use of the computers by reservation since some people in our community don't have computer access at home. Later, a limited number of people could be allowed into the library with social distancing and face coverings required.

**FOR LATEST UPDATE** visit [www.e-MCFL.org](http://www.e-MCFL.org)



*The mask-making team makes sew and no-sew masks and special face masks and face shields using not only MCFL 3D Printers purchased for the Makerspace Team, but also 3D printers on loan from the Salinas and Monterey Public Libraries.*

**PLEASE** hold on to your library materials and book donations until the branch is ready to accept them. No fines are being charged during the closure.



## Meanwhile, Back at the Branch...

Although closed for now, the Carmel Valley Branch Library is not neglected. The landscaping is regularly cared for and Linda Ingram makes frequent check-ups on the building, inside and out.



The Friends are turning our attention to the back patio. Much of the furniture needs replacing. The rose garden looks great, but the other half of the garden is bedraggled. While we are in no position to make these changes right now, we will move ahead with planning with the hope of being able to work on it by next spring, if not this fall.

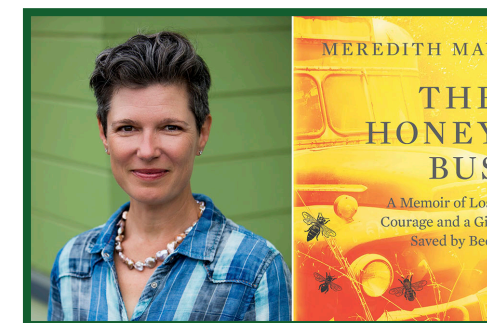
We anticipate that before the Buckeye Building re-opens to the public, some changes will be required. For example, Plexiglas shields need to be installed to protect patrons and staff, computers will be relocated, furniture moved, markers and signs placed, and hand-sanitizing stations installed. Whatever is needed, the Friends will help provide the funds to make our library safe for all.

As a first step, the Carmel Valley Branch Library will be offering Lunch at the Library on Thursdays from June 11 until July 17 from noon to 2 PM via grab and go lunches for children ages 9 to 18. At the same time, the branch will be offering Summer Reading Program 2020 with signups, reading logs, and prizes. This program will also be grab and go. Instead of live performances, performances can viewed online from the library's main website at <http://www.emcfl.org>

## Recently Added Programs



**September 2019**  
Mike Clancy, former Technical and Scientific Director, Fleet Numerical Meteorology & Oceanography Center, gave an in-depth presentation on the science and extent of climate change, and strategies for the future.



**October 2019**  
Meredith May, author of The Honey Bus, described her story of growing up in Carmel Valley "A memoir of loss and courage; it's a story of a girl saved by bees."

## First Saturday Series

*Sponsored by the Friends*

The First Saturday programs scheduled for this spring had to be cancelled due to the Covid-19 pandemic. Jeff Olsen's program about the Carmel Valley and Cachagua Volunteer Fire Departments and Patrice Vecchioni's talk about her new book which Kirkus Reviews called "impassioned & practical poetic advice" will be rescheduled.

First Saturday videos of past programs are available online. Go to [FOCVL.org/archives](http://FOCVL.org/archives)



The most recent addition to our online videos is the March 7th program given by internationally published nature photographer Daniel Bianchetta and bringing us close to the whales and dolphins of Monterey Bay.



**December 2019**  
Jen Hunter, Resident Director of the Hastings Preserve, helped us get better acquainted with the beautiful black and white animal we know as skunk.