

# CHECK IT OUT!

Presented by the Friends of the Lake Odessa Community Library

**SUMMER 2024**



## FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY ANNUAL REPORT

The purpose of the Friends of the Library is to support our local Library. Our logo is a tree with the motto, Branching Out to the Community. We did that in many ways during the past year. Our fiscal year was April 1, 2023 through March 31, 2024. The majority of the Friends' income comes from the Barry County Community Foundation donor-directed funds and lifetime memberships. The Friends experienced a growth of 12 new lifetime members this fiscal year. The Lifetime Member Display was expanded and updated in January and now reflects new members added in calendar year 2023. The bulk of expenditures for the year went to support up to 10 copies per day for Library patrons - \$4,991.15, and the Summer Reading and other Library programs - \$5,465.07. Friends' members volunteered their time on community projects like distributing Gather 2 Grow summer lunches at the Library, Christmas Round-the-Town refreshments and book sale, Santa Parade with cookies after and a book giveaway to Santa's younger visitors. The Friends also contributed \$650 for staff appreciation with gift cards, purchased a bookbinding machine, installed new basement shelving, and donated Little Free Library books. It was a fun and successful year!

### SEWING AT THE LIBRARY

What began with a \$2,000.00 grant from the Library of Michigan and the Institute of Museum and Library Services in the summer of 2022, sewing classes at the Library is something talked about year-around and continues into its third year. This year, adding a sixth sewing machine, the Library is offering sewing classes every Tuesday in July.

Registration is required in order to accommodate the number of sewers interested in attending. Four time slots are available and open to anyone 8+ with no prior experience necessary. As with most Library programs, there is no charge for this class.

Registration begins Saturday, June 1. Please call 616.374.4591 to sign up.



### LUNCH @ THE LIBRARY TO START JUNE

The Library is once again collaborating with Feeding America West Michigan to provide meals for children through the Gather 2 Grow program. Lunches are served every Tuesday through Friday from 11:00 AM to 1:00 PM, beginning June 4th until August 9th.

Each lunch comprises a nutritious, shelf-stable meal and a juice.

This marks the third year of providing lunches at the Library, with 1,080 served in 2022 and 1,737 in 2023. The Friends group and generous donors have contributed funds annually for cookies and water to accompany the lunches.

Volunteers are essential for distributing the lunches. Contact the Library if you would like to volunteer.

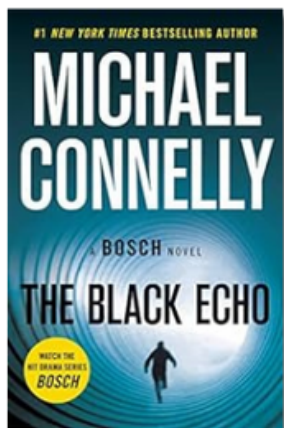


**GATHER  
2 GROW**

# Recent Reads

Thoughtfully submitted by Anne-Marie Flannery

Contact the library to join a book club 616.374.4591



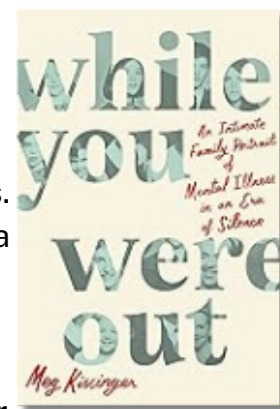
## **Harry Bosch Series** by Michael Connelly

If a good detective story is what you crave, look no further than Michael Connelly's "Harry Bosch" series. Hieronymus "Harry" Bosch is a Los Angeles homicide detective whose famous line "Everyone counts or no one counts" illustrates not only his superior abilities as an investigator but his compassion for crime victims. Connelly started the series back in 1992 with the first installment, *The Black Echo*. Since then, he has written 25 "Bosch" novels culminating with the last two, *The Dark Hours* and *Desert Star*, which feature Bosch in retirement and working as a private investigator. Connelly also wrote seven books about the L.A.-based attorney Mickey Haller, who also happens to be Bosch's half-brother. (Some may know of the film adaptation, *The Lincoln Lawyer*, based on a Haller novel and starring Matthew McConaughey.)

The Bosch and Haller characters often provide cameos in each other's novels. Author Connelly uses his impressive skills as a former crime reporter to make these novels realistic and timely. His knowledge of not only the criminal justice system but the streets and avenues of Los Angeles provides a gritty and suspenseful book series that is hard to put down. (all formats available)

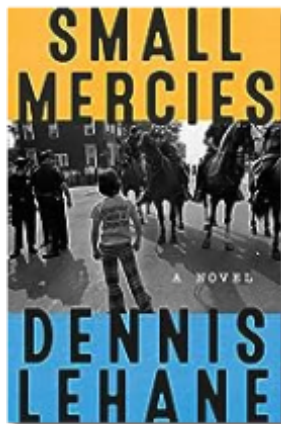
## **While You Were Out** by Meg Kissinger

This memoir recounts the childhood of Kissinger and her large Catholic family in suburban Chicago. Although loving, there were alcoholism and mental illness that ran fissures through the family. Her mother suffered from extreme anxiety. Two of Kissinger's six siblings suffered from depression and ultimately took their own lives. Kissinger had to grapple with the guilt of her sister's and brother's deaths and find a way forward in life. She found her voice as an investigative reporter for the Milwaukee Journal from the 80's to the early 2010's. There she became a finalist for the Pulitzer Prize due to her groundbreaking series on mental health, fueled in part by her family experiences. Kissinger currently holds positions as a visiting professor at both DePauw and Columbia Universities. (all formats available)



## **Small Mercies** by Dennis Lehane

Another work showcasing the writer's Boston background. Lehane, the author of such novels as *Mystic River* and *Gone Baby Gone* continues his career with the story of Mary Pat Fennessey. Set during the busing crisis of the early 1970's, Mary Pat's daughter Jules goes missing. Having already lost her son in Vietnam, Mary Pat decides that she will find Jules at all costs. While searching, Mary Pat discovers that Jules' life and disappearance may be tied to the killing of a black boy, whose death stokes the anger and fear already simmering in Boston. Mary Pat has a climactic scene pitting her against the powerful Irish mobsters who run the city. With his latest book, Lehane again shows his affection for the citizens of his native Boston. (hardcover, large print, audiobook)



# Summer Library Events

Contact the library to register.  
616.374.4591



## May Events:

- 18th Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 22nd Story Time for Preschoolers @ 10:30 AM
- 23rd Book Discussion @ 2:30 PM *A Novel Proposal* by Denise Hunter
- 28th Quiz Bowl - STEM for ages 11-15 @ 3:30 PM
- 29th Story Time for Preschoolers @ 10:30 AM
- 29th Ionia County On The Same Page Discussion & Dessert @ 6 PM *The House is On Fire* by Rachel Beanland

## June Events:

- 1st Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 8th Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 11th-15th Summer Library Program Registration Week!**
- 15th Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 22nd Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 28th Book Discussion @ 11 AM *Secret to Happiness* by Suzanne Woods Fisher
- 29th Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM



**Bridge for All Ages!**  
Tuesdays at 9:30 AM  
July 9th, 16th, 23rd, 30th  
August 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th

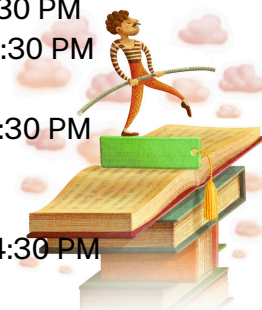


## July Events:

- 2nd Sewing for ages 8+ *must pre-register*
- 5th Chalk Talk - Kid Powered Programs for all ages @ 2:30 PM @ **Jordan Lake Public Beach Pavilion**
- 6th Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 9th Sewing for ages 8+ *must pre-register*
- 12th Blast Off - Kid Powered Programs for all ages @ 2:30 PM @ **Jordan Lake Public Beach Pavilion**
- 16th Sewing for ages 8+ *must pre-register*
- 18th Lions Kid Sight for Preschoolers @ 10 AM
- 19th Here Comes the Sun - Kid Powered Programs for all ages @ 2:30 PM @ **Jordan Lake Public Beach Pavilion**
- 20th Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 23rd Sewing for ages 8+ *must pre-register*
- 24th Balance Class with Rachel from Ionia County Commission on Aging @ 2:30 PM until 4:30 PM
- 26th Book Discussion @ 11 AM *All That Fills Us* by Autumn Lytle
- 26th Make Some Ripples - Kid Powered Programs for all ages @ 2:30 PM @ **Jordan Lake Public Beach Pavilion**
- 27th Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 30th Sewing for ages 8+ *must pre-register*
- 31st Balance Class with Rachel from Ionia County Commission on Aging @ 2:30 PM until 4:30 PM

## August Events:

- 3rd Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 7th Balance Class with Rachel from Ionia County Commission on Aging @ 2:30 PM until 4:30 PM
- 14th Balance Class with Rachel from Ionia County Commission on Aging @ 2:30 PM until 4:30 PM
- 17th Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 21st Balance Class with Rachel from Ionia County Commission on Aging @ 2:30 PM until 4:30 PM
- 22nd Book Discussion @ 2 PM *Happy Life of Isadora Bentley* by Courtney Walsh
- 24th Yoga for all ages @ 9:08 AM
- 28th Balance Class with Rachel from Ionia County Commission on Aging @ 2:30 PM until 4:30 PM



**Check the library's webpage and Facebook events for all the programs and news.**

Place  
Stamp

Friends of the Lake Odessa Community Library  
1007 Fourth Avenue  
Lake Odessa, MI 48849

### Library Hours

Tuesday 9:00AM-7:00PM  
Wednesday 9:00AM-5:00PM  
Thursday 9:00AM-7:00PM  
Friday 9:00AM-5:00PM  
Saturday 9:00AM-Noon  
Closed Sunday & Monday

**The Library will be closed:**  
**Saturday, May 25th**  
**Thursday, July 4th**  
**Thursday, August 15th**  
**Saturday, August 31st**

### Friends of the Library

Heidi Reed	Co-Chair
Dawn Deardorff	Co-Chair
Mary Flannery	Secretary
Myra Kauffman	Treasurer
Deanna Humphrey	Director
Martha Yoder	Director
Shirley Haskins	Director

### Library Board of Trustees

Joel Pepper	President
Kim Deardorff	Vice Pres
Emily Spitzley	Secretary
Nancy Miller	Treasurer
Jill Beard	Trustee
Patti Beglin	Trustee
Cherith Goodemoot	Trustee
Ben Dillon	Trustee

Library Director: Jennifer Salgat

Library Staff Members: Deb Morrison, Julie Stahl, Mike Forton, Kecia Dillon,  
Tess Allarding, & Anthony Brandt

Return this form with a check  
made payable to the  
Friends of the Lake Odessa  
Community Library.  
Become a Friend Today!

Name: \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

City: \_\_\_\_\_

Zip Code: \_\_\_\_\_

*Please Check One:*

\_\_\_\_ Good Friend  
(\$10 Annual Fee)

\_\_\_\_ Lifetime Friend  
(\$100 Onetime Fee)

The Friends of the Lake Odessa  
Community Library group is a 501(c)(3)  
non-profit organization.



# Library UPDATES



## BIRDMAN BILL AND WILD BIRDS

Saturday, April 27th, Birdman, Bill Stovall, visited the Library for an informative program on wild birds found in our area. He answered attendee questions about feeding, housing, attracting, and sometimes ridding the bird species we see in our yards, barns, and woods. Mr. Stovall lives in Delton, Michigan, and is an expert birdhouse builder. He sells his bird houses, bat houses, and feeders (Stovall Wood Products) through many hardware and home stores, as well as Amazon. One house does not fit all birds. Technical things like entrance hole size are critical to avoid letting in predators with smaller birds. If an unwanted sparrow invades your bluebird house, keep cleaning out their nests to discourage them from invading.

The Friends of the Library provided bird-theme refreshments: sliders with hummingbird picks, owl-shaped fruit platter, and birds nest cookies. Library Director, Jennifer Salgat, kept the young crowd busy decorating picture frames for spring with flowers, bugs, and bird houses. Watching birds and listening to them sing can be priceless entertainment!



## LET'S PLAY BRIDGE!

Dave Dursum will again offer eight bridge sessions this summer at the Library. Join Dave on Tuesdays at 9:30 am beginning July 9 and concluding on August 27. Improve your card skills through partner communication and practice. Duplicate bridge originated as duplicate whist — played in Berlin and Paris as far back as 1840, then later in Philadelphia and New York. The majority of primary rules are universal the world over. Millions of people play bridge worldwide in clubs, tournaments, and online. It is one of the world's most popular card games.



## ADVENTURE BEGINS AT YOUR LIBRARY!

Get ready to dive into the 2024 Summer Library Program - Adventure Begins At Your Library! Kicking off on June 11th, this summer extravaganza is a treasure trove of excitement and learning. The theme, chosen in advance by librarians nationwide, sets the stage for a summer bursting with fun educational events. The Collaborative Summer Library Program gets the ball rolling by providing resources and clip art for libraries to jazz up their summer line-up. Lake Odessa Community Library is all geared up for this theme, which allows for tons of customization and promises a whirlwind of engaging activities. Prizes, a.k.a. reading incentives, are donated by Friends of the Lake Odessa Community Library and are all adventure-themed - think camping gear, pickleball sets, hammocks, and LEGO sets! From preschoolers to adults, there's something for everyone, so visit the library's website or stop in to get all the adventurous details!

### Preschool Story Time

ages 2-5

*Thursdays @ 10:30 AM*  
June 6th, 13th, 20th, 27th  
July 11th, 18th, 25th

Stories, Activities, & Crafts!



### Kindergarten - 5th Grade

Registration Week June 11th-15th

*Wednesdays*

June 19th @ 10:30 AM - Juggling with Damian  
June 26th @ 10:30 AM - Snakes, Turtles, and Lizards - Oh My!  
July 3rd @ 11 AM or 12:30 PM - Bowling @ **Buddy's on the Beach**  
*Sign up to receive your special ticket!*

July 10th @ 10:30 AM - Smokey the Bear Celebration @ **Lake Odessa Village Park Pavilion**

July 17th @ 10:30 AM or 11:15 AM - Foam Party  
*Sign up for a time slot, and be ready to get wet!*  
July 24th @ 10 AM until 5 PM - Sweet Adventure Treat

Educational Programs,  
Weekly Activity Challenges & Incentives

### 6th - 12th Grade

Registration Week June 11th-15th

*Thursdays @ 2 PM*

June 20th - Drawing with Lisa  
June 27th - Fear Factor Challenge  
July 11th - Bowling @ **Buddy's on the Beach**  
*Sign up to receive your special ticket!*  
July 18th - Amazing Race Scavenger Hunt  
July 25 - Sweet Adventure Treat

Educational Programs, Weekly Activity  
Challenges & Incentives



### Adults

ages 18+

Never too old to join in the fun!  
Complete the Reading Challenge  
Card and enter to win a Meijer gift  
card. June 1st- July 31st

Weekly Reading Challenges &  
Incentives