



# DIAMOND BAR FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY

AUGUST 2011

## National Coordinator Visits Family Place at the Diamond Bar Library

The Diamond Bar Library was recently visited by Kathleen Deerr, National Coordinator for Family Place Libraries.

During her visit, Ms. Deerr toured the facility, met with staff and representatives from the Friends of the Library, and presented the library with a banner proclaiming it as a Family Place Library. Ms. Deerr spoke eloquently about the vital importance of parents and their key role in children's development during the baby and toddler years, and of the many ways that Family Place Libraries support early learning and literacy.

Family Place is a nationwide initiative to provide a welcoming environment for families with young children by creating an appropriate space, locating resources for parents and caregivers, and holding special programs. A signature program of Family Place is the Parent Child Workshop, which is held twice yearly at the Diamond Bar Library. These workshops are specially designed for toddlers and their parents or caregivers. Parents are able to meet and make connections with local professionals who serve as resources in areas like child development, speech therapy, and pediatric dentistry. The role of parents as the first teachers of their children is emphasized and the workshops help them gain strategies for healthy child development and early literacy.

Family Place Libraries also feature carefully planned spaces that are comfortable for families with small children. These spaces always include lots of toys, which are the tools of learning for pre-literate children, music, multimedia materials, and books for babies and toddlers, as well as parenting resources for adults.

Support from the Diamond Bar Friends of the Library has been crucial to the library becoming a Family Place site. Funds from the Friends have been used to transform the Children's Area into a Family Place by adding developmentally-appropriate toys, a special parenting collection including books and multimedia materials, and comfortable seating for children and their parents. Children's Librarian Julie McCasland has also received training in an intensive three-day workshop held at the flagship Family Place in the Middle Country Public Library in Long Island, New York. The Diamond Bar Library continues to embrace its role as a Family Place and as an essential resource for supporting families and emergent literacy in the Diamond Bar Community.



Kathleen Deer (2nd from right) presents the banner to Library Staff and Friends



## August

Monthly SALE, 50% OFF All authors whose last names begin with A-L.

## August 23

Book Discussion, BasicallyBOOKS  
*Murder Pass Due* by  
Miranda James  
7pm

## September 10

Membership Picnic, BasicallyBOOKS  
Join the fun and join the Friends!  
3-6pm

## September 15

Diamond Bar Day at the  
Los Angeles County Fair, Fairplex

Buy a nice book at BasicallyBOOKS  
and bring it to Diamond Bar Day  
at the Fair for  
free Fair admission!

## September 27

Book Discussion, BasicallyBOOKS  
*Sea of Poppies* by  
Amitav Ghosh  
7pm

## October 25

Book Discussion, BasicallyBOOKS  
*The Maltese Falcon* by  
Dashiell Hammett, as part of the  
Read Together Diamond Bar  
and The Big Read

## November 22

Book Discussion, BasicallyBOOKS  
*Unbroken* by  
Laura Hillenbrand

## 2012

## April 29

19th Annual Wine Soiree  
Diamond Bar Center

# INLAND VALLEY REGIONAL SPELLING BEE

*This is a recent email (s) from IVRSE Director Marsha Hawkins attending the National Scripps Spelling Bee where we had a contestant from the Inland Valley Spelling Bee:*

During the question and answer session at the end of the Scripps Spelling Bee, the new reigning Champion, Sukanya Roy, from Abington Township in Pennsylvania, was asked, "Did you have trouble with any of the words you were given during the bee?" Her answer: "The words were really hard, but all the words I got I just knew." !!!!!!!!

Do you remember those words? We're talking about words like "psephomancy, pyopoiesis, volkerwanderung, zwischenspiel, periscii," and of course, her championship word, "cymotrichous"!!!! Honestly, if you were watching and you heard these words pronounced, you probably felt like me and thought you wouldn't even know how to GUESS what letter of the alphabet the words began with.

At first I felt sorry for her because I thought maybe they had it in for her. Then I thought maybe they tried to tailor the words to the individual speller to make it challenging to that contestant's strengths. By Round 13 when she hit "zwischenpiel" I just thought this speller must have a dictionary computer in her head and could just open to that page when she heard the word, so unbelievable was the ease with which she spelled each word. In fact she stated that she recognized every single word given in the bee.

Another question: "How did you study?" Her answer: "I started with the recommended sources at spellingbee.com. Then I visited the dictionary a few times (laughing) and the words just stuck.(!!!) My parents also helped me study and were very supportive."

Her father made this statement: "We always told her winning wasn't important, we just wanted her to love the language."

To which her mother replied emphatically, "No, winning is nice!"

I have already said that it is a privilege to be here but, after today, I have decided that this event should come with an PG13 rating for "emotionally distressing". An 8 year old competed in the semifinals. An 11 year old made it to the finals. Your heart swells so much to watch them compete so well, then breaks when they have to leave the stage. To tears and a standing ovation, well deserved.

This is Sukanya's third and last year to compete, and she is undeniably and deservedly THE CHAMPION. By the time we were departing the room, she was being whisked away from her admirers and autograph seekers, celebrity status a fait accompli.



*Day One, DB Spelling Bee Coordinator and Champion, Marsha Hawkins and Tin Kuo, with Tin's parents.*



*Day Two, 2011 Scripps International Spelling Bee!*



*Day Three, Champion, Sukanya Roy, from Abington Township, Pennsylvania with her mother!*

## *Basically BOOKS*

Basically BOOKS, serving Diamond Bar and the surrounding communities for the past eleven years, is now open six days a week. The expanded business hours are Monday 10 am to 5 pm; Tuesday 10 am to 7 pm; Wednesday and Thursday 10 am to 5 pm; Friday 10 am to 7 pm; Saturday 10 am to 4 pm. We are closed on Sunday.

Come and visit Basically BOOKS at 23447 Golden Springs Road (near the intersection of Golden Springs and Diamond Bar Boulevard) where you will find many featured sales throughout the month. Look for our special monthly sales where you will find even deeper discounts on many interesting books. The July special features 50% off on all authors whose names begin between a to l. Gift certificates are always available.

All proceeds from Basically BOOKS go directly to benefit the Diamond Bar Library. During the past eleven years, Basically BOOKS has more often than not been the only bookstore in Diamond Bar and has served the community as a resource for school, work and pleasure reading at exceptionally low prices.

Donations are always welcome. For more information, please call bookstore manager Mary Hackett at 909 396-9954 or email to BasicallyBOOKS@aol.com.

Book discussions are held at 7 p.m. on the fourth Tuesday of each month, 7 p.m. at Basically BOOKS. New members are always welcome and encouraged to attend. For more information, please call Alice Moffitt at 909 396-9954 or email to BasicallyBOOKS@aol.com.

## From the Librarian's Desk



By the time you read this, the Diamond Bar Library will just be finishing up another successful summer of reading for the whole family. Our Children's Summer Reading Program had more than 525 kids enrolled by the end of July. Children celebrated this year's theme, *One World, Many Stories*, by stopping by the library to do art activities from around the world, including Grecian urns, Egyptian cartouches, and Japanese raku birdfeeders. Special performances included balloon twisters, magicians, musicians, and belly dancers. Summer reading is not just for kids, however, and teens and adults were able to win chances for incentives and prizes for each book that they read this summer. By the end of July, there were more than 400 teen books and more than 300 adult books read by participants.

This year the Diamond Bar Library was also proud to be picked as one of ten libraries County-wide that were selected to have a special, second Summer Reading Program for kids, the Bow Wow Reading Club. For each participating child that reached a reading goal of sixteen hours a stray dog was groomed for adoption in his or her name. Since groomed dogs are far more likely to be taken home from shelters, the children of Diamond Bar were able to save animals as they made their reading goals! This program was sponsored by the Los Angeles County Library Foundation and the Los Angeles County Animal Care Foundation, and we at the Diamond Bar Library were glad to participate in an endeavor that benefitted both children and dogs.

Though summer is not yet over, we are already looking forward to autumn and the back-to-school season here at the Diamond Bar Library. Teens will be happy to see a refreshed Teen Space in the library, which now offers funky and fun lounge chairs as well as café-style seating perfect for after-school small group studying. Readers of all ages can look forward to the upcoming Read Together, Diamond Bar and our annual partnership with the Pomona Big Read. This year's selection, *The Maltese Falcon* by Dashiell Hammett, will be celebrated with book discussions and interesting and informative programs for people of all ages. Be sure to check our website at [www.colapublib.org](http://www.colapublib.org) for details on all of the great programs that will be happening in the Diamond Bar Library.

Once again, I would like to thank the Diamond Bar Friends of the Library for their generous support of our Summer Reading Program and all of our programs year round. And once again I invite everyone to stop by the library or our website to check out a book or DVD, download an ebook, or learn something new at one of our programs. -- *Jesse Lanz, Community Library Manager*

## ***Teen Space Refreshed and Ready for Back-to-School!***

The Diamond Bar Library Teen Space received a much-needed revitalization this summer. Uncomfortable and outdated chairs were replaced with fun, multicolored mitt chairs, which we think fit this space like a glove, if you'll pardon the pun. Utility was added to the space with café-style tables and stools that allow a perfect place for working on small group projects. A boldly styled area rug further defines the space and helps to create a comfortable atmosphere. By selecting furniture that is efficient and adaptable, we have more than doubled the number of teens that can use our Teen Space and given our teens a broader range of choices for how to use their area. A grand re-opening party for the Teen Space is in the works and will coincide with the start of the new school year.

The Teen Space refresh project was sponsored by the Diamond Bar Friends of the Library with a matching grant from the County Library Foundation. Each year the County Library Foundation offers Friends groups an opportunity to apply for these grants, which are designed to stimulate creative and innovative special projects. All of us at the Diamond Bar Library would like to thank both the Friends and the Library Foundation for funding this exciting project, which will greatly benefit the hundreds of teens that use the library each week.



# Message from the President...



**Rosette Clippinger**  
President

July 27, 2011 is a date that the Diamond Bar Friends of the Library will remember for a long time. For on this date, a hopeful dream of many current and past members, turned into a reality; we have a new library.

It was a beautiful day with a large crowd present to cheer on the start of the New City Hall and Library renovation. With a sledge hammer in hand, Supervisor Don Knabe took the first swing at one of the walls to be demolished. He was followed by State Senator Bob Huff, County Librarian Margaret Donnellen Todd, Mayor Steve Tye, members of the city council and other dignitaries.

This was a momentous occasion for the Friends of the Library as well. When the library is complete, we will be opening a brand new book store conveniently located at the entrance. Margaret Todd believes the library should be finished by fall of 2012. The day can't come soon enough!

## **Diamond Bar Friends of the Library**

*www.dblibraryfriends.org*

23441 Golden Springs Drive, #232

Diamond Bar, CA 91765

On September 10th, the Friends will be hosting a membership picnic at Basically Books. This is going to be a fun afternoon with hot dogs, snacks, grab bags and prizes. Be sure to come and bring some friends and family to join the fun! We are looking for people who love to read and would like to get involved with the community. There are so many opportunities in the Friends such as volunteering at the book store or working on one of our many committees. It is a fun and very rewarding experience. So, mark your calendars and meet us there: Saturday, September 10th from 3 to 6pm at Basically Books, 23447 Golden Springs Dr. in Diamond Bar. See you then!

For more information and photos regarding the July 27th 'wall breaking' ceremony for the new DB City Hall and Library, click on the link below, courtesy of the DB Patch.

<http://diamondbar.patch.com/articles/construction-begins-on-new-diamond-bar-city-hall?ncid=M255>

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