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PRESIDENT'S MESSAGE

Dear Friends,

October is a busy month filled with exciting events and opportunities to support our library!

Please mark your calendars for our **Fall Used Book Sale** in the Stafford Room of the Alameda Free Library from October 23-26.



Wednesday evening is dedicated to teachers and those who cannot attend during the day, and everyone is welcome from Thursday through Saturday. With over 250 boxes of books, CDs, and DVDs, there's something for everyone. Books for Friends and the Library Cafe will also be open, so bring your friends and enjoy fantastic savings.

For those who love our Friends @ Home docent talks, we're excited to host an in-person presentation on **Frans Hals in the Stafford Room on October 16 at 6:30 pm**. Don't miss the opportunity to learn about this remarkable artist. We also have three more Zoom docent talks in the remainder of the year. The final one in December featuring Mary Cassatt, held in conjunction with the exhibit at the Legion of Honor. I want to extend a special thanks to Board Member Kumar Fanse, who has worked tirelessly behind the scenes for nearly a decade to make these talks possible.

October 15-21 marks **National Friends of the Library Week**, a time to celebrate the vital role Friends groups play in supporting libraries. Our partnership with the Alameda Free Library continues to strengthen the programs that benefit the entire community.

As we look back, I'd also like to honor the memory of **Pete Woods**, whose leadership, alongside **Gert Woods** and **Adair Jorgenson**, helped build the foundation for our book sales since 1975. Their contributions were invaluable, and our thoughts are with Pete's family during this time.

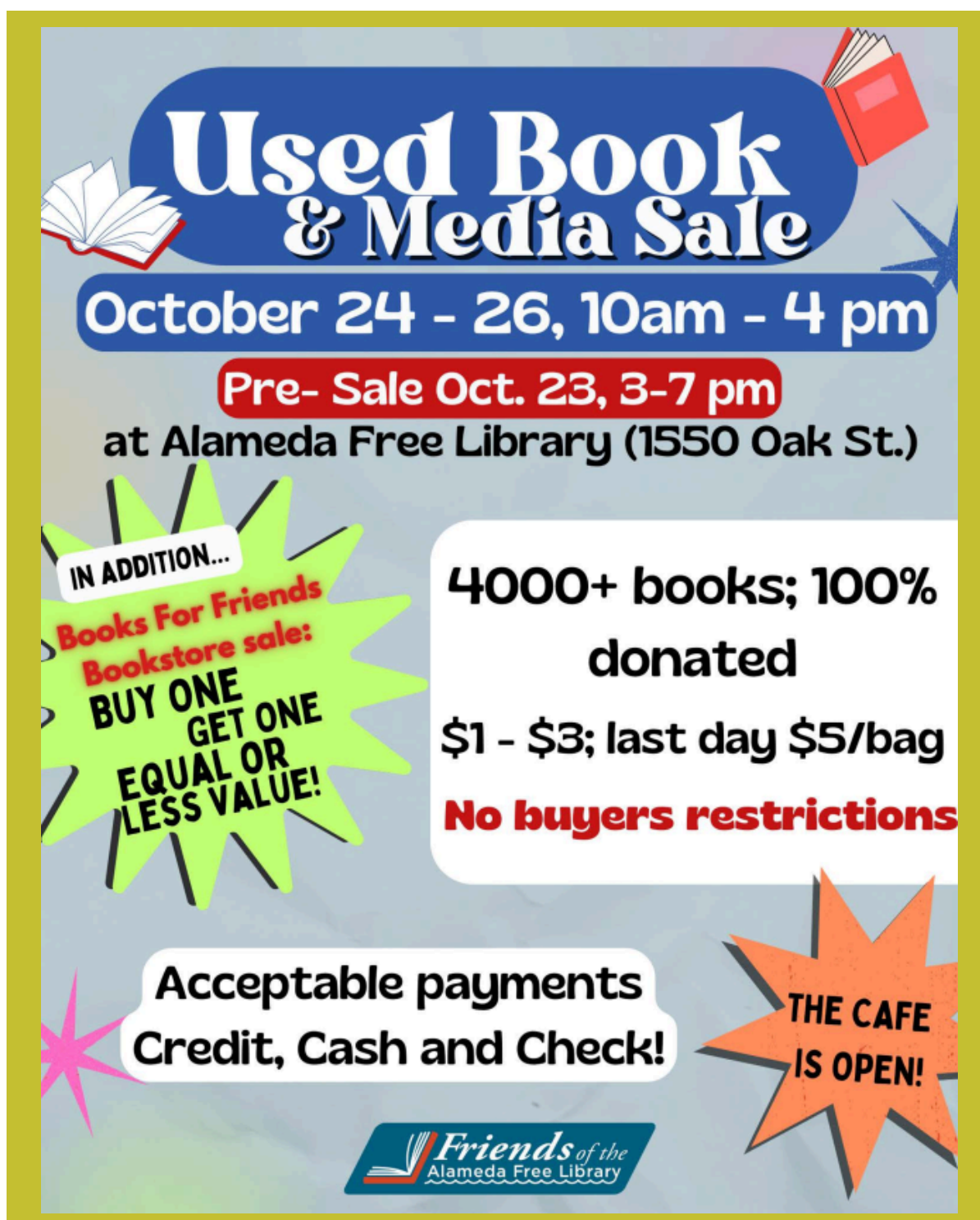
Finally, don't forget the importance of the **November 5 election!** We've included a QR code in this newsletter for voter registration. If you've recently moved or changed your name, you'll need to re-register. I encourage everyone to send in ballots early to ensure they're counted as soon as the polls close.

Thank you for being a part of Friends of the Alameda Free Library. Your support helps keep our library thriving!

Warm regards,

Karen Butter

President, Friends of the Alameda Free Library



Used Book & Media Sale

October 24 - 26, 10am - 4 pm

Pre-Sale Oct. 23, 3-7 pm

at Alameda Free Library (1550 Oak St.)

IN ADDITION...

Books For Friends Bookstore sale:

BUY ONE GET ONE EQUAL OR LESS VALUE!

4000+ books; 100% donated


\$1 - \$3; last day \$5/bag

No buyers restrictions

Acceptable payments

Credit, Cash and Check!

THE CAFE IS OPEN!



Volunteer for Our October Book Sale!



Our October Book Sale is just around the corner and we need your help to make it a success! As the largest fundraiser of the year, this event helps support the library's amazing programs and services. Volunteers like you are essential to ensuring everything runs smoothly, from sorting and organizing books to assisting customers and helping with setup and cleanup.

We have volunteer shifts available now through October 26th, and there are plenty of ways to get involved. Whether you can give a little time or a lot, every bit of help is needed and appreciated.

Interested but not sure where to start? Join our optional volunteer orientation on October 9th via Zoom! Learn more about the roles available and how you can make a difference.

Book Sale Volunteer Orientation

Wednesday, October 9th, 6:30 p.m.

[Zoom Link](#)

Ready to sign up? Visit our [volunteer registration](#) page.

Thank you for supporting the library and helping to make this year's book sale the best one yet!

Register to Vote Today

Your voice matters! With elections around the corner, make sure you're registered to vote and ready to make a difference in our community. It's quick and easy - just scan the QR code to register or check your voter registration status for Alameda County.

Libraries and other vital community services depend on your vote. Let's ensure every voice is heard.

Thank you for supporting your library and your community!



Books For Friends (BFF)
Your Community's Curated Bookshop

Books for Friends: Special Buy One, Get One Event & Donation Information

We're excited to announce that during the upcoming Used Book Sale in the Stafford Room (October 23–26), **Books for Friends (BFF)** will be offering a **Buy One, Get One of Equal or Lesser Value deal!** This is a fantastic opportunity to find even more great reads at unbeatable prices. Plus, the BFF bookstore will have extended hours to coincide with the sale, so be sure to check out both events and enjoy amazing deals on books, CDs, and DVDs.



How to Donate Books to Books for Friends

All donations to BFF are sold to raise vital funds that support FAL, directly benefiting our library's programs and services. The bookstore is run entirely by volunteers, with 100% of proceeds going toward enhancing resources for the community.

Updated Donation Guidelines

By Appointment Only: Please schedule a drop-off time for your donations—unfortunately, we cannot accept books left outside the library without an appointment. The library staff is unable to assist with collection or sorting.

What We're Looking For: We gladly accept fiction (including Mystery, Science Fiction, and Contemporary Fiction), cookbooks, art and history books, children's and teen/tween books, graphic novels, CDs, and DVDs. In addition, we now accept biographies and science books.

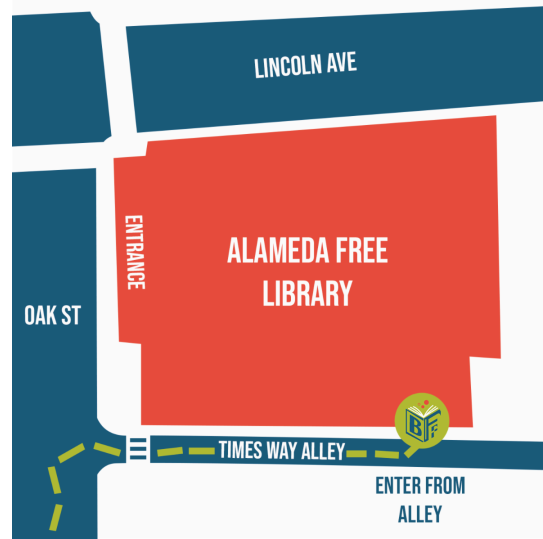
What We Cannot Accept: We are unable to take books that are in poor condition (damaged bindings, writing inside, etc.), as well as cassette tapes, VHS tapes, outdated reference materials (e.g., encyclopedias, textbooks), medical books over 10 years old, foreign language books (except for children's), vintage collectible books, and classical music CDs.

Please note, while donations are accepted year-round, there may be times when we temporarily pause accepting new items due to storage limitations. To arrange a donation, visit our website and complete the appointment request form. Hey honey was in my face if you could that is it I just need to preview & test

BFF Hours

Thursday, Friday, Saturday
12 p.m. to 4 p.m.

Entrance from inside the Main Library is down the hall across from the Cafe. The outside entrance is on Times Way Alley (see the map).



Remembering Pete Woods

A True Friend of the Alameda Free Library



Peter (Pete) Woods, a dedicated supporter of FAL, passed away peacefully at his home on July 27, 2024, at the age of 89, from congestive heart failure. For over three decades, he was a familiar face at FAL's book sales, where he tirelessly volunteered, often handling the heavy lifting of countless volumes.

Born on October 4, 1934, in Washington, D.C., to Alan and Alicia Woods, Pete pursued his education at Monterey Peninsula College before earning a bachelor's degree in Mechanical Engineering from the University of California, Berkeley, and a master's degree from Arizona State University. He married Gertrude (Gert) Beall in 1956, and together they raised a family while Pete's career as an engineer flourished. He worked at Lawrence Livermore National Laboratory, Physics International, Systems Science and Software, and RPC where he developed innovative energy-efficient manufacturing equipment.

"Pete was instrumental in having the community involved when it came to volunteering at the book sale. He engaged with many groups to get the books moved from the warehouse to the sale location," said volunteer Kate Quirk. "This is what he contributed in making the sale successful year after year. He brought the various community groups together and emphasized that it was in support of the libraries. Both he and Gert were deeply dedicated to making the sale successful for many years."

Outside of his professional life and volunteer work, Pete enjoyed a variety of hobbies, including jewelry making, cycling, and later in life team rowing.

“Friends of the Alameda Free Library will be eternally grateful for the contribution Pete made to our organization and to the book sale in particular,” said FAL Board President Karen Butter. “Readers all over Alameda and beyond continue to benefit from his pioneering work.”

Pete is survived by his sister Pamela W. Woods; his four children: Sean David, Carroll, Alicia, and Robert; eight grandchildren: Peter, David, Evan, Amelia, Olivia, Graham, Ben, and Birgitta; and two great-grandchildren: Tallyn and Noah.

His kindness, patience, sense of humor, and deep commitment to Friends of the Alameda Free Library will be greatly missed by all who knew him.

What's Happening in the Library Cafe?



Buzzzz. The alarm goes off and it is time for the children to be back in school. After Moms/ Dads/ Grandparents have sent the kids on their way, stop by the Library Cafe and have yourself a cup of coffee and a pastry and take a breath.

In the afternoons, the cafe becomes the go-to spot for snacks, catching up with friends, or working on projects. High schoolers flock to the noodle soups, middle schoolers crave chips, and grade schoolers can't resist something sweet – and the Cafe has it all!

**Open 10 a.m. - 4 p.m. every day, except Wednesday
12 p.m. - 4 p.m. on Wednesday
We can't wait to welcome you.**

On a recent Saturday, the cafe was buzzing with activity: a heated game of checkers, postcard writing, the knitting group, and a Human Kindness event. There's always something happening at the Library Cafe – come join the fun!

Support Your Library - Donate Today!

Your donation today helps Friends of the Alameda Free Library provide the books, music, and programs our community loves. With your support, we can continue to grow and offer more resources to everyone who visits the library.



[Click here to make a donation!](#)

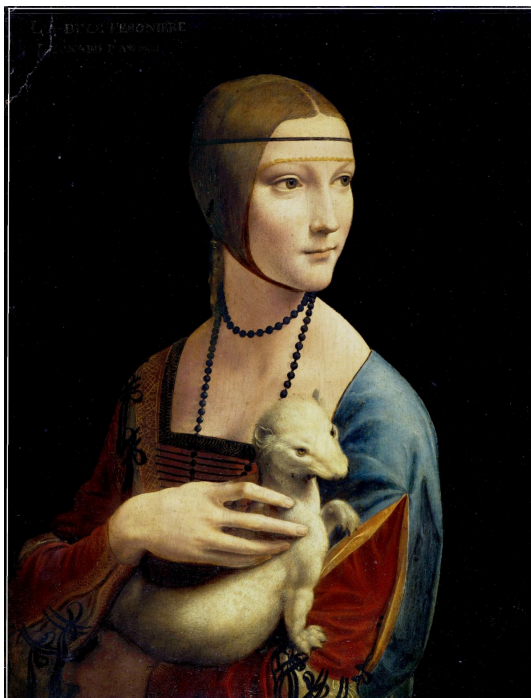
Thank you for helping us keep our library a thriving hub for learning, creativity, and connection!

Board of Directors Opportunity

FAL is seeking enthusiastic new board members to help support our mission. If you're passionate about libraries and want to make a difference in our community, consider joining us! We're looking for individuals with diverse skills and experiences to help guide our strategic initiatives and fundraising efforts. For more information, contact info@alamedafriends.com. Help us strengthen the library's role in Alameda!



Upcoming FAL Events



**Leonardo da Vinci
Zoom Art Docent Event
Wednesday, Oct 9 @ 7:00 p.m.
[Register here](#)**

Discover the fascinating connection between science and art in this special presentation, as we explore the genius of Leonardo da Vinci through one of his most compelling portraits, The Lady with an Ermine. Join Phoenix Art Museum Docent, Patrick Ventura, for a deep dive into how Da Vinci's scientific observations and inventions shaped his artwork, capturing the imagination and affection of art lovers

worldwide. Whether you're an art expert or simply a fan of Leonardo's masterpieces, this presentation will offer fresh perspectives on why his works remain timeless.

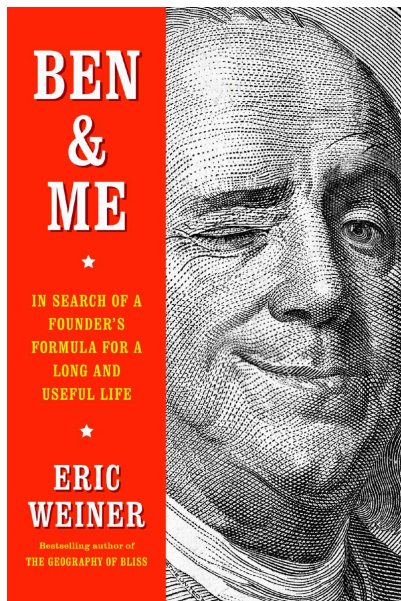
Presented by Docent Patrick Ventura of the Phoenix Art Museum.

**Frans Hals: the Jolly Painter
IN PERSON Art Docent Event
Wed, Oct 16 @ 6:30 p.m.
Main Library: Stafford Room**

If you didn't make it to the comprehensive exhibit of 17th century portraitist Frans Hals at Amsterdam's Rijksmuseum this spring, come share in this exploration of his freewheeling, joyful work.



Hals was celebrated, admired, and sometimes criticized for his rough and ready style - a forerunner of Impressionism, a style now so familiar that it's easy to forget he was its originator. His group and individual portraits give a remarkable picture of the lives of his patrons and the norms, values, and traditions of his times.



**Author Talk: Eric Weiner
Zoom Event
Wednesday, Nov 6 @ 7:00 p.m.
[Register Here](#)**

FAL is excited to welcome back New York Times bestselling author and journalist Eric Weiner, known for his thought-provoking works such as *The Geography of Bliss* and *The Socrates Express*. Eric will discuss his latest book, *Ben & Me*, where he explores an extraordinary journey through the life and wisdom of Benjamin Franklin, uncovering timeless lessons for today's world.

This engaging talk promises a mix of humor, insight, and inspiration, as Eric delves into his experiences as a writer and his unique approach to storytelling. Don't miss the opportunity to hear from one of today's most captivating nonfiction authors.

Breaking the Stereotypes: The Quest for a More Honest and Dynamic Representation of Indigenous Americans in Art

Zoom Art Docent Event
Wed, Nov 13 @ 7:00 p.m.
[Register here](#)



In art, Native Americans have been the subject of stereotypes in how they should be depicted. Some of the stereotypes imposed by non-Native Americans may be more familiar to us. But there are also stereotypes imposed on Native Americans by themselves. We will examine together some of the attempts to break these stereotypes in art and achieve more personal and truthful depictions.

Presented by Docent David Buck of the Phoenix Art Museum.

Alameda Free Library Events *Sponsored by FAL*

All events are free and open to the public. Visit www.alamedafree.org for the full events calendar or call the Library at 510-747-7777 for more information.

**These events are made possible by your donations
to Friends of the Alameda Free Library**

FOR KIDS, TWEENS, TEENS and FAMILIES



Big Truck Bonanza



**Teen Dungeons &
Dragons**
Oct 7, 6:00 - 7:30 p.m.
Alameda Free Library
1550 Oak St.

Oct 12, 1:00 - 5:00 p.m.
City Hall Parking Lot

It's back! Big Truck Bonanza, the library's touch-a-truck event. Meet trucks from various City departments, like Alameda Police, Alameda Fire, and Alameda Municipal Power. It's going to be BIG!

Teens, are you looking for an incredible adventure? Look no further than Dungeons & Dragons (D&D)! Create your own character and embark on an epic journey with fellow adventurers.

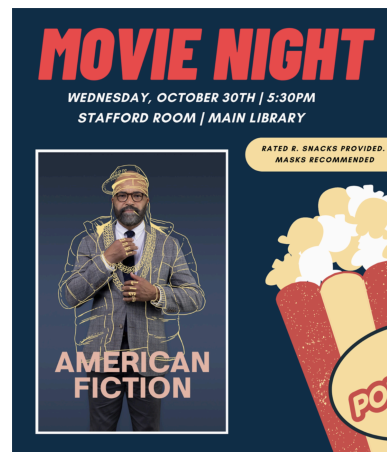
No experience needed. Character sheets, dice, and rules explanations provided. To join, please register [here](#).

FOR ADULTS



Costume Exchange
October 20, 1 - 4 p.m.
Alameda Free Library
1550 Oak St.

Starting October 1st, bring your gently used costumes and accessories to the library and exchange them for a ticket for entry to the Costume Swap on October 20th. Click image for more details.



Movie Night
American Fiction
Oct 30, 5:30 - 7:30 p.m.
Alameda Free Library
1550 Oak St.

Monk is a frustrated novelist who's fed up with the establishment that profits from Black entertainment that relies on tired and offensive tropes. To prove his point, he uses a pen name to write an outlandish Black book of his own, a book that propels him to the heart of hypocrisy and the madness he claims. Snacks will be provided.

Get the latest FAL news and events!



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