



# THE FOPABL HOOT

ALL THE NEWS THAT'S FIT TO HOOT!



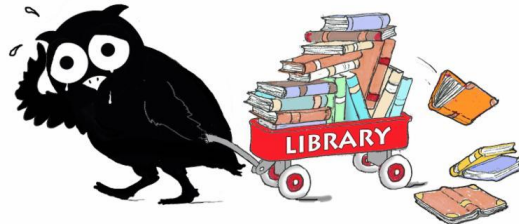
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## A permanent home for our library: the campaign has begun

Oakland has no funds available for a capital project that would give Piedmont Avenue Branch a permanent building. That is what we learned from Acting Head of OPL, Jamie Turbak. Jamie, who was our branch librarian for many years, is now the Interim Director of Library Services for the Oakland Public Library. At FOPABL's 9/13/18 meeting, she said there are no set plans for our library after our current lease expires in 2021.

### PIEDMONT AVENUE BRANCH LIBRARY



### OUR BOOKS NEED A PERMANENT HOME!

That news neither surprised nor deterred FOPABL. The crowd at the meeting formed committees to research the financial requirements and possible sites and to consider what potential partnerships could help us meet our goals. Activity will begin now in preparation for a report back to the community in January. Watch for the full minutes of the September 13<sup>th</sup> meeting on our web site, [www.fopabl.org](http://www.fopabl.org), next week.

If you can join the work for a permanent library please email us at [contact@fopabl.org](mailto:contact@fopabl.org).

### Kids at the Library



It's no surprise and we're always happy to see kids at the library. But on the August National Night Out, there were kids of another kind – grown up baby goats.

Two of them, a mom, Nanny, and her son, Billy, came from their home in Montclair to visit Piedmont Avenue branch library. They stayed near the back fence while kids of the human kind lined up to get ice cream cones before approaching the animals.

These goats – Nigerian Dwarfs – were still sporting fair-going haircuts. They had been on exhibit at the California State Fair. Billy, although bigger than Nanny, was deferential to her and let her take the lead in accepting offerings. They were both patient and accommodating to the lined-up visitors wanting to get a closer look and maybe even pet them. Some of the children pulled grass from the lawn or leaves from the ivy, which the goats were eager to take from their outstretched hands.

Meanwhile, some children, reluctant to approach these unfamiliar creatures, stood back a distance, leaning against a mom or dad, and watched while eating their ice cream.

With Hallowe'en only a month it's easy to think the Nigerian Dwarfs were preparing to be nanny ghosts for the holiday.

### **Good Parents Will Read This**

Two programs, one on September 18 for adults, the other November 15, for children from 1 to 5 years old will help you answer your children's questions about gardening, show you how to spend quality time with them, and teach you how to grow vegetables for your family's dinner table.



The first program, on September 18 at 6:30 is for adults. It will provide information about backyard gardening in the Bay Area and help you answer questions your children may have after they attend the program on November 15.

Led by Master Gardener Kristen Smeal, these workshops will deal with gardening basics but also discuss issues specific to the Bay area, such as microclimates. Don't miss this opportunity to brush up on your gardening know-how while you learn about how to provide another bonding experience with your child.

It is definitely not your grandma's library.

*by Ruby Long, a neighbor whose work has appeared in local and national publications*



### **The Book Worm Recommends**

***Island of the Mad* by Laurie L. King**

#### **Follow a mad boat race across the Grand Canal!**

Laurie King was born in Oakland in 1952 and now lives in Watsonville. In her books, she chooses people and places that already interest us and then combines them into a compelling narrative. In *Island of the Mad*, King brings together the rise of Mussolini in Italy, the glory of Venice's Grand Canal, the racy world of sexually adventurous wealthy people led by glamorous Elsa Maxwell and Cole Porter, and a mad, aristocratic English woman as inexplicable as Grace Poole was in Jane Eyre's attic.

The story begins in Sussex where Mary Russell, Sherlock Holmes's wife, is asked by a friend to find her aunt who has disappeared while on leave from Bedlam, England's famous mental asylum. Also missing are a priceless family necklace, a nurse from the hospital, and a great deal of money from the aunt's bank account which was controlled by her older brother, the Duke. Mary determines that they

have escaped to Venice—and away we go!

This is a glorious portrait of Venice which contrasts the menace of Mussolini's vicious Blackshirts with the glamour of 1920's wealthy socialites who wear silk pajamas, experiment with drugs, and explore sexuality—their own and that of others. The dazzling parties are organized by Elsa Maxwell and Cole Porter who both agree to help Mary and Sherlock find the missing woman. Mary leads a wild chase scene in boats across the Grand Canal and into hiding places among the smaller islands. The mysterious missing aunt is found quite sane but the victim of an abusive brother who has had her committed.

This story is more fun than timeless literature. Think of it as the icing on the cake, the bubbles in the champagne, or the jelly in the doughnut rather than the dense and solid main course.

by Ann. P. McCauley

Ann studied Anthropology at Cal and works in international health. She loves stories with sympathetic, wise characters who engage in humorous conversations and travel to exotic places.

## What's Happening at the Library

### Ongoing Events

**Wednesdays at 10:15 am – Toddler Storytime**

**Wednesdays at 11:00 am – Pre-School Storytime**

**Fridays at 3:30 pm – Build Fridays, Legos & More**

**Saturdays at 10:30 am – Baby Café**

**Saturdays at 2:30 pm – eBook Help**

**Events between September 15 & October 31:**

**Saturday, September 15 at 1:00 pm - Berkeley Rep Talk: *A Doll's House, Part 2***

Welcome to *A Doll's House, Part 2*—a fiercely intelligent and theatrically scintillating play that delighted audiences both on Broadway and off.

Who's that knocking on the door? Nora is back in this audacious Tony Award-nominated comedy. It's been 15 years since she slammed that same door on her marriage and children in the revolutionary final scene of Ibsen's signature play. Now a successful yet scandalous writer, she's being blackmailed by a judge and needs her former husband's help. But her family has a few grievances they need to air first. Want to find out more about this intriguing play? [Join](#) us for a talk about *A Doll's House, Part 2*.

**Tuesday, September 18, 2018 - 6:30 - 7:30 pm - Sensory Gardening Class with Kristen Smeal**

Gardening is the ultimate sensory experience. From the smell of fresh cut flowers and herbs to the sound of a lovely wind chime or birds' song, all five senses can be engaged. This short lecture will present ideas on how to create a multi-sensory experience in your own space, whether it be a backyard garden, balcony, or inside the home. There will be a hands-on activity and plant swap at the end, and everyone will take home a plant.

Kristen Smeal, M.Ed. grew up on a farm in the rolling hills of Pennsylvania. She brings her farm roots and love of gardening to an urban environment by teaching sensory garden workshops around the Bay Area. Feel free to bring a plant, seed, gardening book or material to swap.



**Thursday October 11 at 3:30 pm – Teen Pop Up Program, Ages 12-18 Splatter Party!**

\*Note this program is given at Green Bubble, 4299 Piedmont Ave., not at the library.

All supplies will be provided. Do you like to make crafts? Want to tell us about your favorite book? If so, please join us every second Thursday of the month from 3:30 to 4:30 pm.

**Saturday, October 13 at 1:00 pm - Berkeley Rep Talk: *Fairview***

Witness the work of Jackie Sibblies Drury—one of the brightest voices in American theatre today—as she tackles our thorniest questions about society and race in a completely unpredictable and thrilling theatrical experience. It begins simply enough: it's Grandma's birthday, and Beverly needs the family's celebration to be perfect. But her husband is no help, her brother hasn't arrived, and her teenage daughter may be in trouble. What's more, they are being watched...and judged. Soon, the attitudes and assumptions of these watchers begin to manifest in the family's celebration, forcing them to fight for their very identities. Join us for a discussion with a Berkeley Rep docent.

Unless noted, all these activities and events take place at the [Piedmont Avenue Branch](#)  
80 Echo Avenue, Oakland CA 94611



[fopabl.org](http://fopabl.org)