

FRIENDS OF THE CLAREMONT LIBRARY

News from our Librarian, Amy Crow

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Greetings from your Claremont Library staff! Did you know that the Claremont Library is now open to our community an additional six hours per week? As of July 1, our new hours are 10:00 am to 7:00 pm, Monday through Thursday, and 9:00 am to 5:00 pm Friday and Saturday. And we are still open 1:00 pm to 5:00 pm on Sundays!

Last June through August, over six hundred Claremonters enjoyed our Summer of Discovery at the library, completing self-selected reading challenges and attending enriching and fun programs like the Aquarium of the Pacific's Aquarium on Wheels, manga and anime drawing, and 3D printing design. Funding from our wonderful Friends of the Claremont Library made it possible for the library to offer two programs for children each Wednesday, accommodating all our little community members and their caregivers who came to library for these learning experiences. The Library's summer reading program supports and encourages literacy at all age levels because we believe that readers are thinkers, thinkers are doers, and thinkers and doers make our communities stronger, safer, and smarter. Thank you for your ongoing support of this important programming!

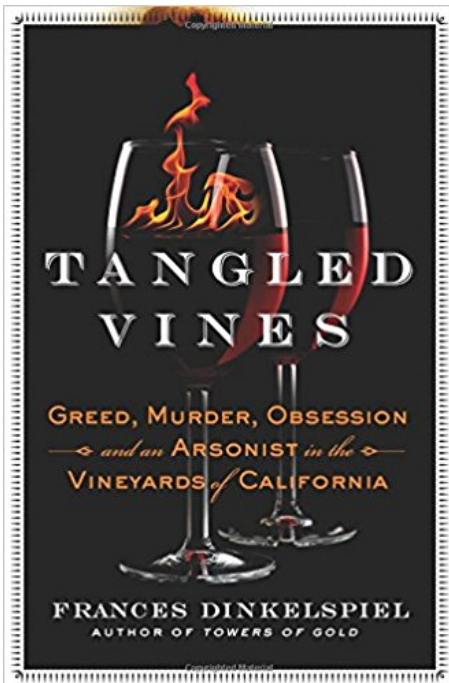
Vee Elliott, our Children's Librarian, and Susan Hall, our Children's Library Assistant, arranged and hosted a hugely attended solar eclipse viewing party on August 21 at the Library. We distributed three hundred pairs of eclipse viewing glasses and over five hundred of our community members converged on the library to watch the historic event together. I was touched to see folks sharing eclipse glasses with strangers after we had run out of give-away pairs so that everyone had the opportunity look safely up into the sky.

The Claremont Library has been serving our community in more basic ways, too. When temperatures reached recording-breaking highs over the last week of August and across Labor Day weekend, the library stayed open until 9:00 pm to provide our community members in need a place to seek relief from the heat. Every day the library is a place where all are welcome to stop by to get a drink of water, sit down in a comfortable chair, use the restrooms, or get out of the heat or the cold.

We have lots planned for this fall at the Claremont Library. We look forward to seeing you at any of our Hispanic Heritage Month events in October, at Native American Heritage Month events or an On the Same Page Month events in November, or at any of our regular storytimes, teen programs, book club, or poetry readings! Library staff is always happy to give reading recommendations, help you get started using any of our digital resources, or just to say "hi!" when you stop by to visit. We look forward to seeing you at the Library!

Carl, Vee, Susan, Kim, Roxanne, Diana, Cozie, Adreanna, Stephanie, Greg, Laureen, Jhon, Jacky, Michelle, Lauren, Sarina, Sabrina, Mary, Iris and Amy

Claremont's On the Same Page Committee chooses the 2017-18 Community Read: *Tangled Vines* by Frances Dinkelspiel



Just as the cover promises, *Tangled Vines* reveals “greed, murder, obsession, and an arsonist in the vineyards of California.” The seed of the story starts a few miles east of us at a contested vineyard in Rancho Cucamonga, the Rains House, and with the author’s great-great-grandfather, a banker who bought the winery. Between then and now, there was Prohibition, a boon in fine wine making in California, wine theft and counterfeiting, and ultimately an enormous inferno that sent the industry reeling. And it set Frances Dinkelspiel on a mission to write this panoramic story of the history of wine-making in California.

The Friends of the Claremont Library is underwriting this community read. Copies of the book are being provided for check-out at the library, and will be available for sale at the Friends booth at Village Venture. Events throughout the fall and winter will follow. For continuing information check the Friends website: www.claremontlibrary.org

Bookstore Help!

The Friends of the Claremont Library bookstore, is seeking volunteers to help organize and shelve books. There is a particular need for someone to help on Thursdays, but other days are available as well. For more information, please contact Barbara Mussleman at blmusselman@aol.com.



Claremont Authors Speak

The Friends held its second annual Claremont Authors event on September 16, 2017. The event featured poetry reading by four local poets: Frances McConnel, Lucia Galloway, Mari Werner, and Karen Greenbaum-Maya. The presentations were engaging and well received by our audience of over fifty participants. The readings were followed by interaction with the poets and refreshments provided by the FOCL. Additionally, each participant was provided with a free book of poetry.

Book Review by Per Dahlin, Board Member

Next year our library will be promoting literacy and community spirit through the book chosen by the On The Same Page committee, Tangled Vines by Frances Dinkelspiel. Many of the runners-up were also great reads, like New Yorker cartoonist Roz Chast's graphic novel memoir Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant? This book is one woman's tribute to her beloved but stubborn parents and their completely modern, painful deaths in the forms of elderly folk. The universal subject of death, particularly the death of parents, is particularized with solemnity and wit. Chast uses drawings, pages of text, photos, and enormous respect to describe the last years of her parents' lives. Their physical and mental collapses are tragically fast and comically drawn out. Chapters like "The Elder Lawyer" and "Sundowning" and "Kleenex Abounding" gingerly step through the elder Chasts' grim process of their move from the family home following their reluctant, increased reliance on their child, as they struggle with injuries, illness, and dementia. Yes, it is often funny and squeezes the tear ducts, too.

Some readers may balk at graphic novels, but Chast is easy on the eyes. The visual style of the story shifts frequently, which helped me reflect on the disruption of the caregiver's life, as well as the grief that she expresses with her art and artful presentation. This book might begin a conversation with any friend or relative who faces end-of-life decisions...or it just might make that conversation begin within yourself.

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**Claremont Public
Library Hours**

Monday 10 - 7
Tuesday 10-7
Wednesday 10-7
Thursday 10-7
Friday 9-5
Saturday 9-5
Sunday 1-5

Upcoming Claremont Library Events

Village Venture -- Saturday, October 28

**Dia de Los Muertos Celebration at Shelton Park -- Sunday October 29,
11:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.**

Poetry Reading -- Sunday, October 29, and Sunday, November 26, 2:00 p.m.

Friends Fine Book Sale -- Saturday December 2, 10:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m.

Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. and 11:30 a.m. -- Toddler Story Time

Tuesdays, 11:00 a.m. -- Preschool Story Time