



Spring 2020

# Bookfriends



Joe recruited new members at the Friends' booth at the recent Hewlett Packard employee charity fair. Joe wowed many employees with his HP retiree's gold badge—and made FOLRR stand out among the many amazing local charities present.

## A Message From Our President, Joe Driear

*Reading gives us some place to go when we have to stay where we are.  
Mason Cooley (1927-2002)*

The world has turned upside down over these past few weeks. Almost all of the Friends' public activities are shutdown at the moment, but the Friends are still supporting the libraries.

Although the libraries had to close on short notice, people still want to read during this stay-at-home time. The Friends are providing community-donated books and DVDs (ones that have not sold at several monthly book sales) to free-book carts. The carts are at the front entrances to the Esther Bone Memorial Library most weekday mornings and to the Loma Colorado Main Library weekdays from 9 to 4 unless it's windy. The carts include adult, teen and children's books and DVDs.

In addition to the free-book carts, if you have a computer, tablet or smart phone, you can download free electronic books and audio books from two services the Rio Rancho Libraries offer. Here are the web addresses for OverDrive <https://riopl.overdrive.com/> and Hoopla <https://www.hoopladigital.com/>. Hoopla also has movies, music and comics for downloading. Both are free with your library card. You have to provide an email address, but neither service sends unwanted

email. Electronic versions don't replace "real" books but they are much better than nothing!

In January and February we had very successful book sales. Unfortunately due to the closure of the libraries, the Friends had to cancel the March and April book sales, and the two-day May book sale may not happen. The Annual Membership Meeting and Spring Luncheon, originally scheduled for April 17, was postponed. Because of the cancelled book sales and limited storage for donations, we have to ask everyone to hold off donating until the libraries reopen.

Hopefully the Summer Reading Program (SRP) will be able to go forward this summer. It is our largest funding event of the year, and the Board has allocated \$13,710 so far for youth and adult activities.

In 2019 our two libraries had 717 programs with 17,708 participants. For any program that required funding, all the money came from the Friends; no city, county, state or federal tax money was used!

The Books for Babies program, sponsored and funded in part by the sale of Friends' book bags, gives each new mother a cloth bag of information on reading to newborns and a board book. Our program recently expanded beyond Rust Hospital to include Lovelace Westside Hospital. The Thursday morning Price-and-Sort crew prepared several hundred bags destined for the two hospitals.

If you are not already on the Friends' email distribution list, you can sign up on the Friends' website: [FOLRR.org](http://FOLRR.org) to receive an occasional update as we navigate through these strange times. And please remember, no donations until the libraries reopen! 📖



**Remember:**  
**NO DONATIONS**  
of gently used books, CDs &  
DVD/Blu-rays in the hutch until the  
Loma Colorado Library reopens.  
Please remind your neighbors!

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*The Friends' Annual Meeting & Volunteer Recognition Luncheon is delayed due to the COVID-19 stay-at-home order. As soon as it is safe to hold large gatherings again, the Friends' Board will reschedule the catered luncheon. Invitations will be mailed to all members.* 📖  
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## Esther Bone Memorial Library: A Superb Staff In Focus



The friendly, professional staff of Esther Bone Memorial Library posing on a lovely spring day (from left to right): Josh, Ann McGinley, Caitlin, Nadia, Jennifer, Elizabeth, and Stella.

**Ann McGinley** has been the Branch Manager at Esther Bone Memorial Library since 2015. Prior to working at our Rio Rancho Libraries, she was an ESL teacher for ten years and postal carrier in Albuquerque for five years. She earned her MLIS degree from San Jose State University. Ann likes to read memoirs, historical fiction, dystopian novels, and books about immigrant experiences. We are very happy to report that Ann has been accepted to the Mountain Plains Library Association Leadership Institute 2020.

Esther Bone has three librarians. **Elizabeth** is a Youth Services Librarian; Storytime is her favorite time of the week. **Josh** is the Adult Services Librarian; he has planned quite a few successful jazz performances at the library. The third librarian position is currently vacant, but will be filled soon with an additional Youth Services Librarian.

Three Library Clerks, **Caitlin**, **Nadia**, and **Stella**, provide customer service, helping Esther Bone customers with their library

accounts. Caitlin also enjoys decorating the library, especially for big events such as Halloween and the Summer Reading Program. Nadia uses She/Her/Hers pronouns. She is currently pursuing her Masters in Library and Information Sciences, and can speak endlessly about books, musicals, and social justice. Stella knows every Esther Bone customer by name!

**Patti** (not shown) and **Jennifer** are Esther Bone's Library Pages. They know where all the books are, and they maintain the shelves so that people can find the materials they want. Patti likes to read historical fiction and especially recommends *The Nightingale* by Kristin Hannah. Jennifer reads mysteries, especially Agatha Christie. A third Library Page will be hired soon. 📖 *Ann McGinley, Branch Manager*



### *Funded by the Friends:*

**Star Wars Fest** at Loma Colorado Main Library was again a success for the eighth year! This year the event saw over 1000 patrons enjoying all the Star Wars events the library offered.

One of the new attractions was creating and adopting a Baby Yoda. Everyone loved making them! There was also the Storm Trooper training camp complete with light saber and blaster training.

Two new partners, Chocglitz & Cream and Magic Mirror Photo Booth, set up their tables and enchanted patrons with their offerings. Planning is already taking place for next year with lots of fun activities on the docket. 📖 *Jenna Wells, Adult Services Supervisor*



**Become a Friend of the Library** by filling out a membership form. Forms are available at our stores in the Esther Bone or Loma Colorado libraries and on our website FOLRR.org. Among many other benefits, Friends receive a 10% discount on purchases from the Friends' store at the Loma Colorado Main Library. 📖