PIZZA PARTY
The Friends would like to thank all those who attended the recent evening pizza party held at the Library. The party, a Friends fund-raising event, was enjoyed by everyone. A special thanks to Library staff who attended and who provided a helping hand when needed.

THE FACE BEHIND THE ART
Recently the Library had a festival showcasing artists from National City and, with the help of the Friends of the Library, it was a resounding success! This summer’s festival featured six artists making an appearance at the Library to talk about their craft and the role that National City has played in their art. The program started and ended with former residents of Old Town National City, Luis Ruan and David Avalos. Luis Ruan is an author and filmmaker who works with at-risk youth and uses alternative methods to reach out to them. David Avalos is a photographer, sculptor and scholar who discussed the history of influential artists who came from National City. Authors Marlene Wagman-Geller and Mary Castillo were on hand to discuss their works and sign their books and Mary read a section of her latest novel *Lost In the Light* which took place in the National City Library. Musician and poet Francisco Bustos and his band Frontera Drum Fusion performed outside on the Library amphitheater to a packed audience. Filmmakers Mary Ann Beyster and David Romero held the National City premier of their film *The Kitchenistas of National City* at the Library. Accompanying them were some of the Olivewood Kitchenistas who talked about their mission to change the dietary habits of families in National City. Afterwards the Kitchenistas made a healthy raw corn and tomato salad. Renowned contemporary artist John Baldessari was kind enough to not only loan the library three reproductions of his works but he also donated several books for our collection. David Avalos also generously loaned us four works of his and was on hand to help the Library create a display for them. These works were on display for the duration of the program. With more than 200 attendees throughout the program, the festival was successful enough that it received an article in The Filipino Press and the San Diego Union Tribune. Additional artists have expressed their interest in becoming involved in the program in the future. With the help of the Friends of the Library and the community, the Library is planning to make this festival an annual event. We hope to see you at the 2017 Face Behind the Art.

YOUNG ADULT EVENTS
The Library is hosting a young adult, ages 14-21, photography workshop Monday evenings 4-6pm from September 26 thru November 7. The six week course will include interactive lessons around Camera Functions, basic Photoshop skills, Elements of Design, Portrait & Self-Portrait, and so on. All students must provide their own camera and should be expected to attend all six classes. Email Mervin.jensen@nationalcitylibrary.org or call (619) 470-5830 for more information. Young adults ages 10-18 are encouraged to join the best board and card game club around on the second Tuesday of each month, from 5-6:30. Board @The Library is a club that will play the latest board and card games. To register sign up at the reference desk or call (619) 470-5830.

GREETING CARD CLASS
On the third Monday of every month starting on Sept. 19, 2016 at 1 pm expert greeting card maker and Friend of the Library Jamia Binsfield will host a Greeting Card Class. This free class will show you how to create your own cards for all occasions. Make a birthday, reunion, holiday or any event that much more special by creating a unique card. All supplies and free refreshments will be provided. No registration is required.
NEWS FROM THE CHILDREN’S ROOM

Summer Reading Program
Every year the library holds a summer reading program to encourage National City kids to keep their reading muscles strong while they’re on vacation from school. This year the program ran from June 13th to July 28th. Kids who joined the program were given reading logs to keep track of their summer reading. Depending on how many pages they logged, they earned fun incentives such as pencils, bookmarks, finger puppets, bracelets, book bags, books and library card cases. This summer over 300 children participated, and they logged over 90,000 pages of reading! We capped off the program with a party attended by 150 people at the MLK Building on July 28th. The kids had pizza, popscicles and danced to the music of the Raggle Taggle Band, followed by a raffle in which dozens of lucky winners walked away with museum passes, gift cards to local businesses, and stuffed animals - all courtesy of generous donors. And on the subject of generous benefactors, our sincere thanks go out to the Friends of the Library, whose efforts on our behalf supplied us with all of the funding for the summer reading program, the party, and all the other children’s programming we offer in the course of the year.

Free Book Week
The library has a long-running tradition of holding book giveaways for children every year. Our latest Free Book Week took place the week of May 16th. During that time every National City kid in grades K-6 could come to the library and choose a book that would be theirs to keep, no strings attached! In a community where many families are on tight budgets that might not allow for buying books, it’s a great opportunity for our children to acquire a book that they – and their siblings – can own and read. At our latest Free Book Week we put new books into the hands of more than 1400 local children! This year, the cost of the books purchased for giveaway was totally underwritten by the Friends of the Library, and every book given away bore a bookplate acknowledging their generosity. Aside from the Free Book Week giveaways, the children’s department tries to find other ways throughout the year to get books into our kids’ homes and encourage their acquisition of the reading habit.

The library receives many used book donations from the community, and we select the ones in the best condition to distribute to kids during our evening children’s programs: the kids play for books on our bingo nights, and our storytimes always end with all the children in attendance being allowed to choose a book. Many hundreds of books get sent home with the children this way every year.

Tower of Power
One of our most popular children’s programs is Lego Club, which meets every two weeks in the evening, and regularly attracts 40 or more participants. Using programming funds supplied by the Friends, we’ve acquired a sizable collection of Legos, which we spread out on tables in our activity room on Lego Club nights before opening the door to the eager throng lined up outside. We take individual pictures of the kids holding their completed masterpieces at the end of the session, which we then add to a slideshow that runs on the big screen TV during Club meetings. We’ve also just added a glass display case-the Lego Tower of Power!- to the children’s room, in which we display the kids’ latest creations. If you’d like to see what Nation One of our most popular children’s programs is Lego Club, which meets every two weeks in the evening, and regularly attracts 40 or more participants. Using programming funds supplied by the Friends, we’ve acquired a sizable collection of Legos, which we spread out on tables in our activity room on Lego Club nights before opening the door to the eager throng lined up outside. We take individual pictures of the kids holding their al City’s future engineers and architects are building, stop by and check out the Tower of Power!

Ronald McDonald’s Visit
As he’s done for the last several summers, Ronald McDonald brought his “It’s Reading Time” show to the library. A large crowd of children and parents filled the Large Meeting Room on June 30, 2016 to see a fun-filled show in which Ronald emphasized to the kids that combining a book with a liberal scoop of reader’s imagination is a recipe for great FUN! Ronald also encouraged the kids to get their own library cards, to treat books with respect, and to read together as a family in the evenings. Ronald was kind enough to linger after the show to personally greet and pose for photos with all of his fans! Watch out for Ronald’s next visit in June or July 2017.

GET INVOLVED
Looking for a rewarding volunteer opportunity? Become a volunteer literacy tutor at the Library! We are currently seeking motivated volunteers to teach basic literacy skills to adults: reading, writing, spelling, and math. There are also opportunities to help adults pass the citizenship test, prepare for the GED, and learn basic computer skills.

Tutors must be 18 or older and pass a fingerprint and background check. The Library provides training, support, and materials. To find out how you can help, stop by the Literacy Services Office on the second floor of the Library or call 619-470-5860.

Also, the Friends Bookstore located adjacent to the Children’s Room on the first floor of the Library has a continuing need for volunteers. If you are interested please ask one of the current volunteers for the Bookstore’s “How to Volunteer” form.

The Friends Board
Shirley Ferrill, President
Micki Head, VP
Monica O’Hara, Treasurer
Barbara Rydberg, Secretary
Betty McCormack, Director
Gloria Bird, Director
Margaret Godshalk, Director

The Friends
The Friends Board normally meets 4:30 pm the third Wednesday of each month. All Friends members as well as the general public are welcome to attend.

To contact the Friends, send an email to ncpflfnds@gmail.com

The Friends would like to thank Library staff for their news items. Newsletter costs are funded by the Friends. No taxpayer funds are used.

The Friends mailing address appears below.

PLEASE JOIN THE FRIENDS—1401 National City Blvd, National City, CA 91950
MAKE CHECK PAYABLE TO: FRIENDS OF THE NATIONAL CITY PUBLIC LIBRARY
(A Non-Profit 501(c)(3) Organization—Contributions are Tax Deductible)

Name: ___________________________ Address: ___________________________

Annual Membership
Individual $10.00 Family $15.00 Sponsor $25.00 Benefactor $50.00 Special Friend $100.00 Org/Bus $35.00

18x94 below.

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