

# THE NEWS *of* ORANGE COUNTY

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## *At the Library: Celebrate reading during banned book*

*By Erin Hils Shepherd  
Orange County Public Library*

From classics to recent publications, books are challenged, restricted, removed or banned primarily for the reasons of sex, profanity and racism. These challenges to books, from fiction to non-fiction to biographies, are usually motivated by the desire to protect children and mainly occur in schools and public libraries.

Our community supports OCPL's dedication to providing free and equal access to books and information. OCPL upholds the principles of the American Library Association's Library Bill of Rights and Freedom to Read policy statement, which oppose censorship and access restrictions.

During Banned Books Week—Sept. 22 to Sept. 28—OCPL celebrates the freedom to read by promoting books in our collection that have been challenged or banned in other libraries.

Stop by the OCPL Main Library and check out our display of banned books. Pick up a free bookmark or button, and borrow a book like one of these most-challenged titles from 2012-2013:

- “Beloved” by Toni Morrison: The Pulitzer Prize-winning book was challenged for being sexually explicit, violent and for its religious viewpoint.
- “A Child Called It” by Dave Pelzer: The best-selling autobiography depicts graphic child abuse.
- “Fifty Shades of Grey” by E.L. James: Despite its popularity, overwhelming demand and best-selling status, some libraries across the country are refusing to carry this steamy romantic trilogy.
- “Fight Club” by Chuck Palahniuk: It was challenged for its violent nature and explicit undertones.
- “Looking for Alaska” by John Green: Though it won the Printz Award for excellence in young adult literature, it has been banned for inappropriate language.

### **Hillsborough artists featured at OCPL Carrboro Branch Library**

Though much of the news in this column centers on the OCPL Main Library in Hillsborough, OCPL also serves southern Orange County with the OCPL Carrboro Branch Library and OCPL Cybrary. These two branches will be properly introduced here next month.

In the meantime, the OCPL Carrboro Branch Library is hosting an exhibit through Oct. 14 featuring artists from the Hillsborough Gallery of Arts. Represented are: Linda Carmel, Ali Givens, Chris Graebner, Lolette Guthrie, Mary Lansman, Eduardo Lapetina, Alice Levinson, Jude Lobe, Pat Merriman, Ellie Reinhold, Eric Saunders, Pringle Teetor, Lynn Wartksi and Michelle Yellin.

The Carrboro Branch displays art year-round courtesy of its Arts Program. The Arts Program is artist-operated and supported by the Friends of the Carrboro Branch Library and the Orange County Arts Commission.

The Arts Program has transformed the Carrboro Branch Library into a genuine art gallery, displaying the work of 1,650 local artists over the past 17 years. The Arts Program curates four gallery shows a year, each focusing on a unique theme.

The OCPL Carrboro Branch, 900 Old Fayetteville Road inside of McDougle Middle School, is open from 3:30 to 8 p.m. Monday through Thursday, from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m. Saturday and from 1 to 5 p.m. Sunday.

**Buy a brick and support the library**

The Friends of the Library are selling brick pavers now through Nov. 1.

Pavers are a lasting way to honor a loved one, remember a pet, celebrate a life event or represent your business, church or community organization.

The pavers will be installed in the front walkway of the OCPL Main Library, and funds raised will enhance OCPL services, programs and collections. Check out [www.orangecountync.gov/library/pavers.asp](http://www.orangecountync.gov/library/pavers.asp) to place your order today.