

Local Author Releases Book This Month



Corrine Ardoin Explores California Small Town History

Corrine Ardoin got her start writing poetry and writing birding guidebooks for local museums. Trying her hand at fictional works, she has authored a series of books that progressively go back in time following

the Hart family with all their small-town associates in a small northern California valley. A former firefighter and forest service worker, Ardoin was inspired by the small towns at the foot of the Eastern Sierra region between Sacramento and Lake Tahoe in writing her "Pine Valley" series books. "I do a lot of research when writing my books, visiting historic places, interviewing people, taking pictures," said Ardoin. "I have to keep it all credible and accurate."

Her research pays off, as does her writing approach. When asked about the name Edenville, a fictitious town where parts of the stories take place, she said "I was poking fun at the idea of Eden, a perfect tranquil place. There is always a darker side to every story." She related that each of the books in the series are an exploration, and she uses writing as a way understand her own life. The first book in the series titled "Fathers of Edenville," was written when her father was dying, and she was coming to terms with that. "Mothers of Pine Way," the second book was written as she

dealt with her mother's passing. This year's July release "A Place Called The Way," reaches farther back in time and deals with how generations of personal experiences shape the present and how we are all connected in spite of our human frailties and struggles. "I hope that through my books readers get the message to take care of themselves, to heed the call to heal themselves, and to take the journey necessary in their lives," she said.

Ardoin grew up in Southern California, and has lived all over California, settling in the Central Coast in recent years. She has always lived in small towns, and her books reflect that western small-town feel.

Ardoin will host a book signing on July 30 at Chapter 2 - a Bookstore, Lompoc's only bookstore, and at the Book Loft in Solvang on August 6th. Other local events will follow once the book is officially released on July 28th. Check out her website at www.ardoin.us/corrine/ for the latest updates.

Julian Hemphill reporting

Orcutt Community Theater Presents

3 Locally Written Plays in Season 5

STAGE WRITE, a local writing group that focuses on playwriting, is preparing three of their original plays as part of the fifth season of Orcutt Community Theater. All plays are presented as staged readings one weekend only. Following the play, audiences are invited to discuss the play with cast, crew, and author.

The first production is JUST PASSING, a comedy-drama, by Candyce Columbus. In the play, three dysfunctional siblings

Corrections by Corrine Ardoin

Text reads: "Mothers of Pine Way, the second book was written as she dealt with her mother's passing."

Correction: "as she dealt with the idea of her mother's passing." Corrine informs us that her mother is very much alive and well.

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