

DATE: June 20, 2022

TO: Library Board of Trustees

FROM: Tracy Gray, Library Director
Laura Burch, Analyst

SUBJECT: **Library Director's Report**

LIBRARY HOURS

The Library will be closed on Thursday, June 23, for an all-staff training day. The Library will reopen on Friday, June 24, for regular operating hours.

The Library will be expanding evening hours on Mondays and Thursdays starting on June 27. This final expansion will return the Library to full regular operating hours. The Library will be open:

- Monday to Thursday, 10:00 a.m. to 9:00 p.m.
- Friday to Saturday, 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- Sunday, 1:00 p.m. to 5:00 p.m.

NEW MOBILE LIBRARY VEHICLE

In collaboration with the Public Works Department, the Library has contracted for a new, all-electric cargo van for Mobile Library Vehicle services. The 2022 Ford E-Transit 350 Extended Length Cargo Van will replace the current Mobile Library Vehicle Class C RV chassis.

The new Mobile Library Vehicle represents, for the manufacturer, one of the first all-electric vehicles of its kind for size, weight, and capacity. The new electric Mobile Library Vehicle furthers the Library's mission and increases the reach of Library services whilst meeting the City's long-term sustainability goals. Trends for Mobile Library Vehicle services across North America are moving toward cargo vans, including larger library systems, such as in Santa Barbara, California; New York, New York; and Portland, Maine.

Benefits of an electric cargo van for the Library's mission include:

- Expansion of efficient and flexible Mobile Library Vehicle services to include pop-up libraries in outdoor, indoor, and less-accessible City areas.

- Equitable browsing of materials for vulnerable citizens.
- Tailoring multiple stops within a day with less staffing needs makes it easier to provide higher-impact Library projects throughout the City.
- Furtherance of Library access during public health concerns.

Planned features of the new electric Mobile Library Vehicle include:

- Customized carts and shelving units for off-vehicle access.
- WiFi hotspot capability.
- Charging stations.
- Interior and exterior emergency lighting.
- Awning.
- Outdoor speaker system.
- Wheelchair/book cart lift.

The Library is currently assessing stops and locations and will resume Mobile Library Vehicle service this August with the current vehicle until the new electric cargo van is designed and built.

The new Mobile Library Vehicle and service model will be similar to Santa Barbara Public Library's "Library on the Go."



FISCAL YEAR 2022-23 BUDGET RECOMMENDATIONS

The Fiscal Year 2022-23 Budget Recommendations were presented to the City Council at its June 14 meeting, and Council will vote to adopt the Budget at the June 28 meeting.

Library budget requests being recommended include:

- The addition of an Assistant Library Director position in the Administration Division.
- Increased funding for Library software annual subscription increases.
- Limited term funding of \$20,000 for more e-books.
- Limited-term funding for security services.
- Capital Outlay funding for new and replacement window coverings.

SUMMER READING RETURNS

Summer Reading is here! From June 4 to July 31, 2022, the Library encourages everyone to join in Summer Reading, a free annual Library tradition. More details and registration are available online at MountainView.gov/SummerReading.

All ages can read or listen to earn rewards. Relax in the shade with a Library book, enjoy an audiobook on a road trip, read aloud to a child, or simply catch up on the news over morning coffee—all your summer reading and listening counts.

- Children (birth to fifth grade) that register will also receive a Badge Book filled with interactive and fun learning activities to encourage daily reading. Badge Books are available while supplies last.
- Children and teens who read daily will earn free books.
- Adults and teens who finish summer reading will have a chance to win one of several gift certificates to local businesses.
- All those who complete summer reading will receive a coupon for use at a Friends of the Library book sale.

The Library is hosting a full lineup of programs that pair well with the summer reading experience. The Library's calendar outlines the list of summer programs for all ages, including musical performances, enhanced storytime offerings, arts and crafts experiences, and acclaimed authors

visits. Register for or plan attendance to a Library summer event at MountainView.gov/LibraryCalendar.

Upcoming summer events include:

- June 22, 2022: Vanessa Hua, author of *Forbidden City*, and winner of the Asian/Pacific American Award for Literature, will join us for a virtual conversation.
- July 13, 2022: Aurora Mandolin Ensemble Concert performs, in the Library, a wide-ranging repertoire from old European works to show tunes.
- July 20, 2022: Traveling Lantern Theater presents children's play *Camp Ocean*, in Pioneer Park.
- July 21, 2022: Kara Cooney, renowned Egyptologist and bestselling author, will virtually discuss her latest works, *The Good Kings* and *When Women Ruled the World*.
- August 2, 2022: Onye OnyeMaechi offers a participatory cultural experience about life in a West African village. Celebrate summer reading accomplishments with a family-friendly event of drums and community building in Pioneer Park. For all ages.
- August 3, 2022: What is Magic? With Brian Scott. Understand more about the science and art behind magic tricks with a chance to watch, learn, and do. Perfect for ages seven and up.

SCHOOL VISITS

The Library welcomed students back for the first school visits since before the pandemic began. Several groups from local schools received a tour of the Library building and learned about all of the fun and educational resources available to them during the school year and summer break. The Library also hosted several classes for a virtual live class visit.

WILDFLOWER SEEDS AND SEED LIBRARY

As part of the #PlantWildflowers Campaign by the HHMI Tangled Bank Studio and the PBS show *Nature*, the Library has received a donation of 250 individual packets plus a one-half-pound bag of regional wildflower seeds. The wildflower seeds have been added to the Seed Library, located near the second-floor information desk.

The campaign, inspired by the studio's film *My Garden of a Thousand Bees*, highlights the crucial role of wild bees and seeks to inspire communities to create new pollinator habitats. Learn more at the [#PlantWildflowers Campaign website](#).



The Library also installed a new slatwall unit to display the second-floor Seed Library collection. The new setup allows for customers to easily browse without having to pull out the drawers. Once customers have made their seed selections, they can collect the actual seeds at the second-floor information desk.

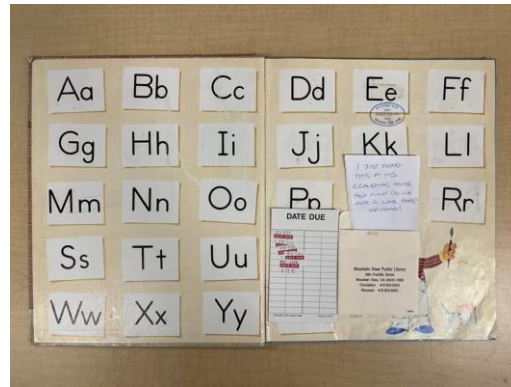
STAFF BIKE STORAGE

The Library has transformed space in an underutilized closet to make room for a staff bike storage area. With help from Facilities staff, the closet was cleared out, and bike racks were hung on the walls to provide more efficient space for riders to safely store their wheels while at work. The addition of this secure storage has encouraged more staff to start biking to work on a regular basis.



LONG OVERDUE BOOK

A customer recently returned a very overdue Library book that was found in their grandmother's house. The Library used to use stickers to indicate the date due, and this book was due back on April 17, 1992!



PROGRAMS

Past Programs Highlights

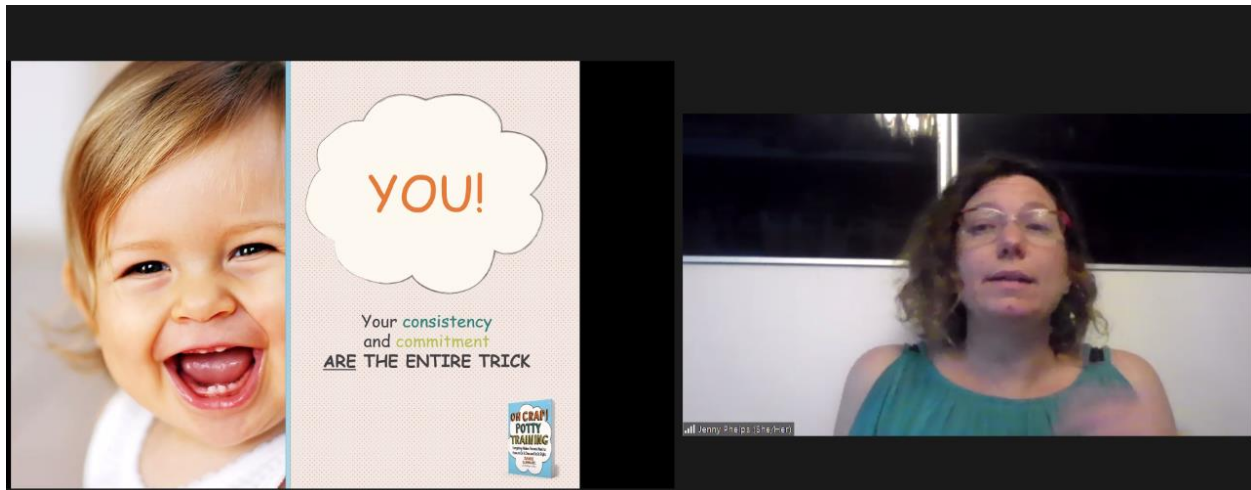
Staff from Pixelators Education led a workshop teaching the basics of Scratch, a block-based programming language. Thirty (30) kids who are interested in game design learned to create animations, stories, and games as programming beginners.

The Library's annual plant exchange event returned postpandemic for its seventh year. Over 100 people attended the event to donate existing plants and take home new ones.



Matthew Gabriele, a professor of medieval studies and chair of the Department of Religion and Culture at Virginia Tech, joined the Library virtually for a presentation on Medieval Europe. Mr. Gabriele provided an overview of the book *The Bright Ages: A New History of Medieval Europe* and discussed how and why events from that era resonate so deeply. Twenty-two (22) attendees logged on for the presentation.

On April 27, Youth Services hosted an evening Zoom parenting program on toilet training with Jenny Phelps, an Oh Crap! Potty Training Certified Expert. Over 40 caregivers attended and have overwhelmingly voiced their preference for continuing virtual parenting programs. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Staff from the Chinese Health Initiative of El Camino Health presented information of what to know about cholesterol. This program was delivered in two sessions, one in Mandarin and one in English. Eighty-four (84) people attended these sessions of the popular Ask a Dietician program.

The Library celebrated Día de los Niños/Día de los Libros (Children's Day/Book Day) with a dance performance and independent learning project giveaway. Raices de México performed for families on April 30 in Pioneer Park with an attendance of 158. The performance was made possible through a reimbursement grant awarded by the California State Library and the Southern California Library Cooperative with funds from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA).



The Cats 3 Jazz Band gave an in-person performance at the Library on Tuesday, May 24. An engaged audience of 25 attended and enjoyed the live music. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



The popular Sing and Play Along Ukulele Jam returned to the Library on May 25 with 29 people in attendance.



June 7 was the start of the Library's Outdoor Bilingual Storytime series. Every Tuesday at 10:30 a.m., families will meet in Pioneer Park for stories, finger plays, and music in both Spanish and English. The first week drew a crowd of almost 250 people. The bilingual storytime series runs through June 28.

Other Past Programs

- Adults
 - Fulfilling Long-Term Financial Goals: Financial Workshop with Brad Hamada—Attendance: 13.
 - Virtual Adult Crafts "Brown Bag Lunch," Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 28.
 - Virtual ESP Conversation Club—Attendance: 10.
 - Virtual Trivia Night—Attendance: 3.
 - Sustainability in Action—Attendance: 5.
 - Virtual ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 7.
 - Virtual ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 10.
 - Virtual ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 7.

- Ohlone, Orchards, and Office Buildings—Attendance: 48.
- Virtual Adult Crafts, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 19.
- Drop-in Bike Clinic, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 20.
- Virtual ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 10.
- Youth
 - Spring Outdoor Storytime No. 8—Attendance: 236.
 - Spring Outdoor Storytime No. 9—Attendance: 213.
 - Spring Outdoor Storytime No. 5—Attendance: 207.
 - Spring Outdoor Storytime No. 10—Attendance: 152.
 - Spring Outdoor Storytime No. 11—Attendance: 253.
 - Needlepoint Bookmark Kit for Teens—Participation: 45.
 - Spring Outdoor Storytime No. 12—Attendance: 236.
 - Deer Hollow Spring Storytime
 - Spring Outdoor Storytime No. 13—Attendance: 208.

Upcoming Programs

- Tuesday, June 21—[Introduction to 3D Printing for Kids](#)
- Tuesday, June 21—[Intro to Ukulele for Teens](#)
- Tuesday, June 21—[Drawing Level Up!, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Wednesday, June 22—[Virtual Adult Crafts, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)

- Wednesday, June 22—[Author Talk with Vanessa Hua, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Saturday, June 25—[Outdoor Storytime, every Saturday through August 6](#)
- Saturday, June 25—[Switch It Up Saturday Series, every Saturday through August 6](#)
- Tuesday, June 28—[Jam Making: Yes, You Can! with the UCCE Master Food Preservers](#)
- Wednesday, July 29—[Art Explorers Series, every other Wednesday through July 27, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Wednesday, June 22—[ZunZun, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Thursday, June 30—[Dino Dig, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Thursday, July 7—[The Henna Artist: Author Talk with Alka Joshi, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Wednesday, July 13—[Aurora Mandolin Ensemble Concert, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Thursday, July 14—[Getting Things Done: The Art of Stress Free Productivity—Author Talk with David Allen, Sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library](#)
- Thursday, July 14—[Preschool Math Storytime Series, every Thursday through July 28](#)

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