

DATE: January 23, 2023

TO: Board of Library Trustees

FROM: Tracy Gray, Library Director
Laura Burch, Library Analyst

SUBJECT: **Library Director's Report**

STAFF UPDATES

The Library has filled two Senior Librarian positions. Court Fields has been promoted from Librarian II within the Adult and Digital division, while Renee Ting will move up from Librarian II in the Youth and Outreach Division. Both have been with the Mountain View Public Library for many years and were excited to start serving their respective divisions in these new roles on January 9.

FREE INCOME TAX ASSISTANCE

The Library is once again partnering with United Way Bay Area to bring free tax preparation assistance to the community. Volunteers from the IRS's Volunteer Income Tax Assistance program will be at the Library on Saturdays and Tuesdays starting on January 28 to help low-income individuals file their State and Federal taxes. Assistance will be available on a first-come, first-served basis through Tax Day on April 18.

RENGSTORFF HOUSE MODEL

The family of the late Bay Area resident and former aeronautical engineer, Al Kuhn, stopped by the Mountain View History Center to donate a meticulously detailed model of the historic Rengstorff House. Mr. Kuhn had a passion for creating detailed models of airplanes, cars, trains, and more. He moved to the Bay Area after retiring and frequently went on walks with his wife that took them past the Rengstorff House. He was fascinated by the historic house and its grounds, and he thought it would be a fun modeling project. He took many photos and detailed measurements to ensure his replica would be accurate and, over the course of several weeks, built this exceptional model of the Rengstorff House. Library Director Tracy Gray met with Mr. Kuhn's widow, Liliane, and son Philip Kuhn, and accepted the model on behalf of the City of Mountain View.

The Rengstorff House is Mountain View's oldest home and one of the finest examples of Victorian Italianate architecture on the West Coast. Located at 3070 North Shoreline Boulevard, the Rengstorff House features a Victorian Italianate design with a hip roof, a central gable crowned by a widow's walk, a front portico, and a symmetrical room layout. The gracious dining room and four lovely parlors downstairs, all decorated with classic period décor, open up to brick patios surrounded by manicured lawns, blooming flowers, and natural areas. This historic Mountain View landmark was saved from destruction and fully restored in 1991.



MORE CALIFORNIA STATE PARKS PASSES

The Library received additional California State Parks passes from the California State Library to meet demand for the program. The Library now has 103 passes available for checkout, which cleared the holds list and left many additional passes available for families to enjoy the State Parks over the holiday break.

NEW WAYS TO GET A LIBRARY CARD

The Library is now issuing library cards to the public at the second-floor information desk. Customers who go to the second floor to use the public computers or reserve a study room will be able to use their photo ID to get a library card without having to go back downstairs to the customer service desk. This new offering will make services on the second floor more convenient for customers to access without having to visit multiple service points.

PROGRAMS

Past Program Highlights

The Library participated in the City's annual Tree Lighting Ceremony on December 5, 2022. Children's Librarians Alex and Renee presented a special Mrs. Claus's Reading Corner storytime, where they shared holiday stories with 177 people during two sessions.



On December 6, 2022, the Bel Canto Flutes musical group played a holiday performance with season favorites. The performance was attended by 64 people and was sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



The Library hosted a drop-in bottle cap art program for kids on December 8, 2022, providing all the supplies needed to create unique artwork; 61 kids and parents created around 150 mini-masterpieces. Several of the parents that participated felt inspired by the program and mentioned they planned to bring the program to their child's school.



The Library had the largest live turnout for a virtual program with the Winter Fruit Tree Pruning presented by the Master Gardeners on January 12; 243 people tuned in to watch the program live on Zoom.

Training/Pruning Systems (continued)

Central Leader

- › Makes a small tree
- › Select lateral branches, spaced evenly around tree, two to three feet apart vertically
- › Laterals may need training to 45° angle

Top View

The image shows a presentation slide titled "Training/Pruning Systems (continued)". On the left, there is a text box with the heading "Central Leader" and three bullet points: "› Makes a small tree", "› Select lateral branches, spaced evenly around tree, two to three feet apart vertically", and "› Laterals may need training to 45° angle". Below the text is a "Top View" diagram of a tree with a central leader and lateral branches. On the right side of the slide, there are five diagrams illustrating different tree structures. The top row shows three stages labeled A, B, and C, representing the progression from a single leader to a more branched structure. The bottom row shows two more top-view diagrams of trees with different branching patterns. In the top right corner, there is a small video feed window showing a man, identified as Allen Bachinski, speaking.

Other Past Programs

- Switch It Up Saturday—Attendance: 17
- Health and Wealth: Estate Planning and Health Care—Attendance: 18
- Baby Storytime—Attendance: 41
- Author Talk with Geraldine Brooks, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 53
- Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin/English—Attendance: 29
- Identifying and Interrupting Microaggressions—Attendance: 23
- Fratello Marionettes: North Pole Review, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 97
- Author Talk with Fredrik Backman: Bestselling Author of *A Man Called Ove*, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 141
- Fulfilling Long-Term Career Goals—Attendance: 10
- A Story of Murder and Indigenous Justice in Early America: Author Talk with Nicole Eustace, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 11
- Drop-in Bike Clinic, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 7
- Christmas Dance Party—Attendance: 141
- Holiday Homes—Attendance: 45
- The Gilded Ones Series: Author Talk with Namina Forna, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 7

Upcoming Programs

- Tuesdays through February 28—[Outdoor Winter Storytime](#)
- Wednesdays through February 22—[Baby Storytime](#)
- Tuesday, January 24—[Sewing with FabMo: Create Your Own Bowl Cozy](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Wednesday, January 25—[Sing and Play-Along Ukulele Jam](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Thursday, January 26, biweekly through March 23—[Science Explorers](#)
- Thursday, January 26—[Landlord Property Registration Workshop](#)
- Thursday, January 26—[Mind and Meditation](#)
- Thursday, January 26—[Silicon Valley Reads Kickoff 2023](#)
- Friday, January 27—[Sensory Storytime](#)
- Tuesday, January 31—[xkcd Webcomic and What if? Series Creator: Author Talk with Randall Munroe](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Tuesday, January 31—[English/Spanish Storytime](#)
- Thursday, February 2—[Positive Approaches for Managing Challenging Behaviors in Children and Adolescents](#)
- Saturday, February 4—[Family Storytime](#)
- Wednesday, February 8—[Drop-in: Teen Resumé Workshop](#)
- Wednesday, February 8—[Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin/English](#)
- Thursday, February 9—[Back in a Spell: Author Talk with Lana Harper](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Thursday, February 9—[Growing Fabulous Citrus](#)
- Saturday, February 11—[Switch It Up Saturday](#)

- Thursday, February 16—[Tastes Like War: An Author Talk with Grace M. Cho](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Saturday, February 18—[Drop-in Bike Clinic](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Wednesday, February 22—[Sing and Play-Along Ukulele Jam](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Friday, February 24—[Sensory Storytime](#)
- Saturday, February 25—[Switch It Up Saturday](#)

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