

DATE: February 27, 2023

TO: Friends of the Mountain View Library

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

SUBJECT: **Library Director's Report**

NEW LIBRARY BOOKMOBILE UPDATE

The Mountain View Public Library is eagerly anticipating the arrival of a new all-electric Bookmobile in 2023. The vehicle chassis for the 2023 Ford E-Transit cargo van has arrived at Farber Specialty Vehicles, the company that will convert the vehicle into a Bookmobile. Library staff is working on the final stages of the planning process with the vendor, and then Farber will begin building the vehicle.

As part of the procurement process, the Library is working with a graphic design firm to create three unique art concepts for the exterior of the vehicle. The designs will incorporate the City's updated brand identity to evoke the spirit of the Library and the services offered. The Library will work with the City Communications team to solicit feedback from the community on each of the three designs. This public feedback will be utilized as part of the decision-making process when selecting a final design to adorn the exterior of the new Bookmobile. Once all customization work is completed, the vehicle will be delivered with an anticipated arrival in summer 2023, pending any additional delays.

HUMAN LIBRARY

The Mountain View Public Library collaborated with the worldwide [Human Library](#)[®] to host another Human Library event on Saturday, January 21. The event's aim was to ignite dialogue and understanding between people by creating a safe space to have conversations that challenge society's stereotypes and prejudices. During the event, community members could register in advance to check out a human "book" to "read" in a one-on-one conversation. Each book in the Human Library is a real person who is available to answer questions about the person's unique life experience. Hosting Human Library events is one of the Library's major goals for this fiscal year.

The January event featured “books” on a variety of topics, including two Police Officers from the Mountain View Police Department. The event was sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.

Eleven (11) community members engaged in a total of 14 conversations with the human books. Attendees shared that they had a great experience chatting with the human books about their unique perspectives. The Library plans to offer another Human Library event in April 2023.

The Library received some positive feedback about the program from a community member ahead of the event:

“What a wonderful idea!!!! This is huge!!!! This is what makes the world a better place. Thank you for doing this!”



SENSORY STORYTIMES

The Library held its first Sensory Storytime program on Friday, January 27. This new storytime offering, which was sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library, is designed for young children who may benefit from a smaller class size and a more structured storytime with manipulatives. Twenty-six (26) people attended this program, and feedback from families was very positive. New families joined in for this storytime and were very appreciative.

FREE TAX PREPARATION

The free tax preparation assistance is off to a strong start in 2023. After three sessions, the IRS-certified volunteers have assisted 52 people with filing their tax returns. The Library added

an additional day of assistance each week that will help reach more people seeking support with their taxes.



PROGRAMS

Past Program Highlights

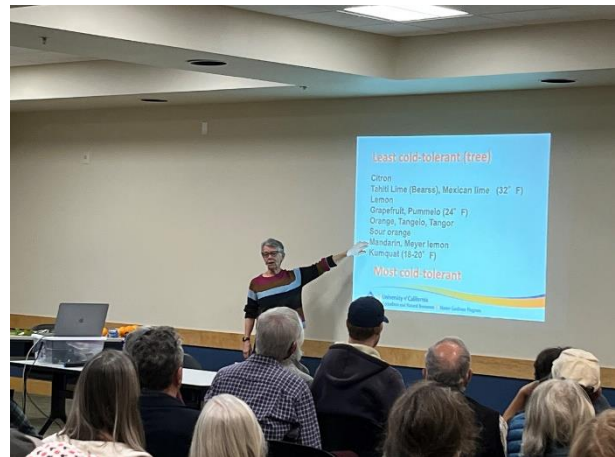
On Saturday, January 14, the Library celebrated the Lunar New Year with a brief talk about the customs followed by a hands-on painting class. Twenty-four (24) people attended and made paintings of flowers, fruits, and zodiac animals to ring in the Year of the Rabbit. This program was sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Sewing with FabMo returned to the Library with its first in-person program in several years. Fourteen (14) people learned how to sew their own bowl cozy.



On Thursday, February 9, the Library hosted a return to in-person gardening programs with the topic of growing fabulous citrus. A presenter from the Master Gardeners shared information on planting and caring for citrus trees with an audience of 51 people.



Other Past Programs

- Drop-in: Teen Resumé Workshop—Attendance: 1
- Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin/English—Attendance: 20
- Landlord Property Registration Workshop—Attendance: 4
- Science Explorers, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 41

- LinkedIn Hacks: Survive a Recession and Jump-Start Your Career—Attendance: 18
- Lunar New Year Celebration and Painting Workshop: Year of the Rabbit, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 24
- Outdoor Winter Storytime—Attendance: 120
- Decluttering to Start Your New Year: Author Talk with Dana K. White, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 67
- The Science and Non-Science of Star Wars—Attendance: 22
- Baby Storytime—Attendance: 69
- Lunar New Year Lantern—Attendance: 15
- Drop-In Bike Clinic, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 7
- Outdoor Winter Storytime—Attendance: 152
- Baby Storytime—Attendance: 68
- Sing and Play Along Ukulele Jam—Attendance: 23
- Science Explorers—Attendance: 34
- Landlord Property Registration Workshop—Attendance: 2
- Mind and Meditation—Attendance: 7
- Silicon Valley Reads 2023 Kickoff—Attendance: 37
- Outdoor Winter Storytime—Attendance: 161
- xkcd Webcomic and What If? Series Creator: Author Talk with Randall Monroe, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 93
- Bilingual Storytime: Spanish/English—Attendance: 23
- Baby Storytime—Attendance: 70

- Positive Approaches to Managing Challenging Behaviors in Kids—Attendance: 111
- Family Storytime—Attendance: 113
- Outdoor Winter Storytime—Attendance: 163
- Baby Storytime—Attendance: 103
- Drop-In: Teen Resumé Workshop—Attendance: 2
- Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin/English—Attendance: 49
- Landlord Property Registration Workshop—Attendance: 5
- Science Explorers—Attendance: 26
- Back in a Spell: Author Talk with Lana Harper, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 3

Upcoming Programs

- Tuesday, February 28—[Outdoor Winter Storytime](#)
- Tuesday, February 28—[Author Talk with Sadeqa Johnson: Award-Winning Author of *Yellow Wife*](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Tuesday, February 28—[Bilingual Storytime: Spanish/English](#)
- Wednesday, March 1—[What the Fireflies Knew: Author Talk with Kai Harris](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Saturday, March 4—[Family Storytime](#)
- Tuesday, March 7—[Detox Your Mind Through Meditation](#)
- Wednesday, March 8—[Drop-In: Teen Resumé Workshop](#)

- Wednesday, March 8—[Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin/English](#)
- Wednesday, March 8—[Low-Water Lawn Alternatives](#)
- Thursday, March 9—[Science Explorers](#)
- Saturday, March 11—[Switch It Up Saturday](#)
- Monday, March 13—[Author Talk with David Epstein: Bestselling Author of *Range* and *The Sports Gene*](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library
- Thursday, March 16—[Let's Create](#)
- Thursday, March 16—[Substance Abuse Prevention Workshop](#)
- Saturday, March 18—[Family Storytime](#)
- Saturday, March 18—[Drop-in Bike Clinic](#), sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library

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