

DATE: April 20, 2026

TO: Board of Library Trustees

FROM: Tracy Gray, Library Director
Katie Hom, Librarian

SUBJECT: **Library Director's Report**

NEW CITY ADVISORY BOARD PLATFORM

There's now a new centralized portal for the City of Mountain View boards, committees, and commissions.

The [new platform](#) streamlines the process for residents to apply for open positions on advisory bodies. Applicants can now submit applications online through a more user-friendly interface. In addition, the public can learn more about the City's 10 advisory bodies, including what they do, who serves on them, and when they meet.

Visit the City's Boards, Committees, and Commissions portal at public.govinity.com/portal/mountainview.

STAFF ARTICLE PUBLISHED IN PROFESSIONAL BLOG

Library Manager Renee Ting contributed an article to the [Association for Library Service to Children](#) blog titled "[100 Library Cards in One Hour: Meeting Families Where They Are \(Literally\).](#)"

The article describes how the Library collaborated with Castro Elementary School staff to promote library services for children and families during their Back-to-School night. Spanish-speaking library staff were present, and library card applications were offered in English and Spanish to make it as easy as possible for children to obtain their own cards. Staff issued 108 library cards by the end of the one-hour event. The article provides readers with advice on identifying opportunities and planning for similar services in their communities.

PUBLIC LIBRARY ASSOCIATION CONFERENCE

Five Library staff members attended the Public Library Association conference in Minneapolis from April 1 to 3. They attended various sessions covering leadership, outreach, programming, digital services, communications, and more.



JULIUS CAESAR PERFORMANCE AT SECONDSTAGE

The Library proudly presents San Francisco Shakespeare Festival's "Shakespeare on Tour" program for a special production of *Julius Caesar* on [Wednesday, April 29](#). The performance will take place on the SecondStage inside the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts. Free tickets may be claimed on a first-come, first-served basis at the Mountain View Center for the Performing Arts Box Office starting at 6:00 p.m.

The Library is excited to continue its partnership with MVCPA and looks forward to hosting similar large-scale events on the SecondStage.

SPRING PROGRAMS

Library staff presented several gardening-related programs to celebrate the arrival of spring.

- The Spring Outdoor Storytime series began on Tuesday, April 7, in Pioneer Park.
- Attendees learned how to grow bearded irises at a program presented by UC Master Gardener Sandy Wright on Tuesday, April 14.
- Residents were invited to learn more about sustainable living through an interactive workshop hosted by [Electrification Collaboration](#), where attendees learned about heat pump water heaters, induction cooktops, solar panels, batteries, and more.
- The Library's popular [Plant Exchange](#) will take place in the bookmobile garage on Saturday, April 25.

The Library also brought the all-electric bookmobile to the [Earth Day Festival](#) in Civic Center Plaza on Saturday, April 18. Visitors browsed a curated collection of materials pertaining to earth science and sustainability, and had the opportunity to borrow items and register for library cards.

FRIENDS OF THE LIBRARY BOOK SALE

The [Friends of the Mountain View Library](#) will hold a Book Sale the weekend of May 2 to 3. Residents are invited to find great bargains on gently used books for adults and youth, DVDs, CDs and more. Funds raised will support Library programs, including the upcoming Summer Reading program.

Saturday, May 2:

- 9:30-10:30 a.m. Members-Only Sale
- 10:30 a.m.-4:00 p.m. General Public Sale

Sunday, May 3:

- 11:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. Fill-a-Bag Sale
- 2:00-4:00 p.m. Bulk Sale \$1 per foot length

The Book Sale will take place in the bookmobile garage along Mercy Street in the driveway next to the Library's underground parking lot.

PROGRAMS

Past Program Highlights

Nineteen adults attended the Pressed Flowers craft program and created custom photo frames using provided supplies, including markers, ribbons, colored paper, and an assortment of pressed flowers. This event was generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Master Gardener Martha Carpenter showcased low-water ornamental plants from around the world. She brought cuttings from her own garden that attendees could see, touch, and smell.



Ten participants at the Sewing with FabMo program enjoyed making pin cushions. This event was generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Twenty-one children and adults participated in a nature-themed scavenger hunt in Pioneer Park inspired by the [Silicon Valley Reads](#) featured companion book [Together, a Forest](#) by Roz MacLean. Activities included drawing lines in the rock garden and making bark rubbings using paper and crayons against tree trunks. This event was generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.



Nine seniors attended a special program where they received tips on avoiding modern scams and preventing falls, including exercises to strengthen the lower body and creating safer living spaces. There were three presentations led by speakers from Enyi Health, Agiliti Health, and Elder Compass.



Other Past Programs

- Tuesday, March 3—Silicon Valley Reads Inspired Storytime—Attendance: 287
- Tuesday, March 3—Free Tax Preparation Assistance: Drop-in Service—Attendance: 25
- Wednesday, March 4—Baby Storytime—Attendance: 115
- Wednesday, March 4—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 26
- Thursday, March 5—Magical Bridge Storytime—Attendance: 58
- Thursday, March 5—How to Make Healthy Living Effortless and Fun - In Conversation with Jenn Lueke, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 25
- Thursday, March 5—Native Plant and Pollinator Gardens—Attendance: 24
- Friday, March 6—Baby Storytime: Rerun—Attendance: 95
- Friday, March 6—Pages and Paws Reading Buddy—Attendance: 35
- Saturday, March 7—Free Tax Preparation Assistance: Drop-in Service—Attendance: 35
- Saturday, March 7—Sew Sew Saturday, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 4
- Sunday, March 8—Pressed Flowers, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 19
- Monday, March 9—Storytime Around the World—Attendance: 28
- Tuesday, March 10—Winter Outdoor Storytime—Attendance: 303
- Tuesday, March 10—Free Tax Preparation Assistance: Drop-in Service—Attendance: 29
- Tuesday, March 10—Low Water Ornamentals from Around the World—Attendance: 3
- Wednesday, March 11—Baby Storytime—Attendance: 108

- Wednesday, March 11—Unlock the Hidden Power of Dreams with Sleep Expert Michelle Carr, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 38
- Wednesday, March 11—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 27
- Wednesday, March 11—Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin/English—Attendance: 30
- Wednesday, March 11—Ukulele Jam: Sing and Play Along, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 12
- Thursday, March 12—Let's Create, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 63
- Thursday, March 12—Book Portals and Journeys of Literary Magic with Kate Quinn, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 30
- Friday, March 13—Baby Storytime: Rerun—Attendance: 110
- Friday, March 13—Amplify: Improv-aganza Workshop—Attendance: 24
- Saturday, March 14—Free Tax Preparation Assistance: Drop-in Service—Attendance: 40
- Tuesday, March 17—Free Tax Preparation Assistance: Drop-in Service—Attendance: 39
- Tuesday, March 17—Sewing with FabMo: Pin Cushions, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 10
- Wednesday, March 18—Baby Storytime—Attendance: 113
- Wednesday, March 18—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 27
- Wednesday, March 18—LEGO® Time—Attendance: 35
- Wednesday, March 18—The Power of Native Gardens—Attendance: 28
- Thursday, March 19—Together a Forest Nature Exploration, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 21
- Thursday, March 19—Level Up Lounge—Attendance: 10
- Friday, March 20—Baby Storytime: Rerun—Attendance: 126
- Friday, March 20—Don't Fall For It! - An Educational Event for Seniors—Attendance: 9
- Friday, March 20—Amplify: Improv-aganza Workshop—Attendance: 24
- Saturday, March 21—Drop-in Bike Clinic, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 14
- Saturday, March 21—Free Tax Preparation Assistance: Drop-in Service—Attendance: 44
- Saturday, March 21—Amplify: Japanese Calligraphy—Attendance: 12
- Tuesday, March 24—America's Failed Response to the Opioid Crisis with Author Shoshana Walter with Special Guest Host Barbara Kingsolver, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 5
- Tuesday, March 24—Free Tax Preparation Assistance: Drop-in Service—Attendance: 50
- Wednesday, March 25—Baby Storytime—Attendance: 112
- Wednesday, March 25—ESL Conversation Club—Attendance: 27
- Wednesday, March 25—The Goddess: Images of Power, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 52
- Thursday, March 26—Let's Create, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 26
- Friday, March 27—Baby Storytime: Rerun—Attendance: 78
- Friday, March 27—Amplify: Improv-aganza Workshop—Attendance: 45

- Saturday, March 28—Free Tax Preparation Assistance: Drop-in Service—Attendance: 49
- Saturday, March 28—Recasting the Vote: How Women of Color Transformed the Suffrage Movement, sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library—Attendance: 12

Upcoming Programs

- Sew Sew Saturday
 - [Saturday, May 2](#)—The Library has sewing machines (models: Baby Lock Grace and Baby Lock Rachel) that are available for use within the Library on a drop-in basis for anyone who is working on a project or needs to hem a garment. For adults, ages 18 and up. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
- Think fast, fit faster: It's Puzzle Palooza!
 - [Saturday, May 2](#)— Bring your team spirit and sharp eyes for a jigsaw showdown where you race against other teams to complete the same puzzle in a friendly, fast-paced competition. For ages 11 and up. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
- An Evening with Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni
 - [Thursday, May 7](#)—Join us for a virtual conversation with award-winning author, activist, and professor Chitra Banerjee Divakaruni. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
- Make Your Own Felt Portrait
 - [Sunday, May 10](#)—Create a self-portrait out of felt using provided crafting supplies. For adults, ages 18 and up. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
- Amplify: Bio Bridge Yeast
 - [Friday, May 15](#)—Children ages 8 to 11 are invited to join us for a fun lab event where they will prove that yeast is alive using a few simple ingredients and a balloon. This event is part of [Amplify: Teen Voices](#), a program for teens who want to share their interests and passions with an audience.
- Needle Crafts Circle
 - [Saturday, May 23](#)—Come to our needle crafts circle and enjoy a relaxed, friendly space for all fabric arts including hand sewing, knitting, crocheting, and more. For adults, ages 18 and up.
- Chinese Roots: How to Trace Your Family History
 - [Saturday, May 23](#)—This multimedia session will offer key resources to help you find and explore your China roots and access Chinese American research tools. This event is generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.

- Online Author Series, generously sponsored by the Friends of the Mountain View Library.
 - [Tuesday, May 5](#)—How can singing to your food and eating dessert before dinner improve your digestion, skin, and overall wellbeing? Bestselling author and entrepreneur Radhi Devlukia-Shetty takes us on a journey, written with generosity and kindness, in her book [JoyFull](#).
 - [Thursday, May 7](#)—Join us for an exciting conversation with internationally acclaimed author Marjan Kamali as we delve into the timeless wonder of her *New York Times* bestselling novel, [The Lion Women of Tehran](#).
 - [Thursday, May 14](#)—Come to a conversation with Ruchika Sikri and Dr. Patrick Porter as they chat about their book [Brain Fitness Blueprint](#), in which they present a 30-day action plan to supercharge your brain and achieve peak performance.
 - [Tuesday, May 19](#)—What if the only thing standing between you and the seemingly impossible was belief? This is the question posed by bestselling author Nir Eyal in his new work, [Beyond Belief](#).

For more upcoming events, view the [Mountain View Public Library's events calendar](#).