LIBRARY MATTERS

LIBRARY EXPANDS COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS WITH GRANT-FUNDED PROJECTS

In the fall of 2016, Redwood City Public Library received five grants from the California State Library totaling $80,000 to implement innovative new services to expand our connections to the community. This spring, all of the projects are moving full speed ahead, and we're excited to invite you to experience them all.

Pedal Lit is a bicycle-pulled book trailer customized with an irresistible adorable flower design to plant the seeds of literacy for kids at risk through bilingual storytimes and enrichment programs for kids of all ages, along with their parents and caregivers.

La Cocina de Libros is a new mobile kitchen demonstration unit that will draw residents to the joys of simple cooking techniques and healthy eating. La Cocina will bring cooking demos, gardening workshops, nutrition information and related book talks with community-based cooks using a mobile kitchen and a hands-on curriculum.

Both Pedal Lit and La Cocina will visit schools, rec centers, clinics, local events and partner programs, including Familias Unidas and the America Scores soccer/poetry/service programs at local schools. You can also see them at the STEAM Fest on Courthouse Square on April 29, the Kernes festival at Fair Oaks Library on April 30 and the 150th Festival and Flower Extravaganza on May 20 at Courthouse Square.

Meet Your Neighbors hopes to connect new Redwood City residents with the community, each other and of course the library. In March, the library held a very successful Speed Meet Your Neighbors program (like speed dating, but to make friends instead of love connections), and the Downtown Library Community Room was packed for Meet Your Chefs, featuring samples and discussions with the chefs from LV Mar' La Viga, Arya Steakhouse, Timber & Salt and Donato Enoteca/Cru. Upcoming events include Meet Your City Advocates on April 8 and Meet Your Librarians on April 22.

As part of the city's sesquicentennial celebration, Redwood City Now and Then provides opportunities for community members to share old family photos, receive digital copies and learn how to use online tools. Through workshops to scan photos and talk about the stories behind them, the library hopes to create opportunities for teens and seniors to learn from each other while sharing Redwood City history. Upcoming workshops will be held at both the Downtown Library (third Saturdays at 10 a.m.) and the Veterans Memorial Senior Center (fourth Fridays at 10 a.m.) and will teach attendees about Snapchat (April), creating slideshows using iMovie (May) and basics of landscape photography (June).

Build A Comic will include a number of events in the week leading up to a big celebration of Free Comic Book Day on May 6, and will feature a series of workshops for aspiring graphic novel authors and illustrators in June, including writing, using graphics software, collaboration between writers and artists, and the publishing industry.

Science and nature programs will be held at all three branch libraries the week of April 10–14 and will include STEM activities on topics as broad as chemistry, natural resource conservation, technology (including 3-D printing workshops), gardening and a field trip to the Recology-Shoreway Environmental Center.

For more information about these projects and everything else happening at the library, visit us online at www.redwoodcity.org/library.

Editor's note: This article and information is supplied by Derek Wolfgren, library director at the Redwood City Public Library. Look for similar articles in upcoming Spectrum Magazine issues.

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MT. ZION FOOD PANTRY

FOOD PANTRY IN REDWOOD CITY, CA

The Mt Zion Food Party is the first community pantry that will be providing food vouchers to the low income families with children in the Redwood City community. Due to the high cost of shelter and food the low income families with children do not get meals that are provided for free at school. The Mt ZION Food pantry will help provide the food vouchers needed so no child will go hungry in our community. PLEASE HELP US SERVE OUR COMMUNITY: https://donate.org/mtzionfoodpantry

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