

The BOOKMARK

Newsletter of the Redwood City Library Foundation

Volume 14, Number 1 • Spring 2014

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50th Anniversary
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Of Jeannette & Ike Goodman's
58th Anniversary
Goodman Law Corporation

Of Cherie Ho's Retirement
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John & Marie Violet
David & Colleen You

Of Kay Howitt's Birthday
Annette Howitt

Of Al Jordan Family
Jerry Tinney

Of Noosha & Delara Keyani
Raheleh Mansoor

Of Georgi LaBerge & Warren Dale
Jane Day

Of Elizabeth A. Munley
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Of Maureen Roskoph's Birthday
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Of Marian Shattuck
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Of Carla Sillin
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In Memory...

Of Vi Hammer
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Of Monica Marie Lombardo
Rebecca Lombardo

Of Lloyd Peter Malfatti
Trudy Malfatti

Of Donald R. Mathews
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Janice Miles

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Of Marjorie G. Wargo
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Of Joanne "Soddie" Willett
Gordon & Renee Graham
Robert & Marlene Hunter
Lester & Mary Jo Spring
Brian & Deborah Tokumoto
Andrew Trygg
Jan Visser
Kevin Willett

Of Mr. & Mrs. Joseph Zinman
Robert Craig Birner

Save the Dates Upcoming Events

4th Annual Kermes & Dia del Niño
Sunday, April 27, 11:00 am – 3:00 pm
Fair Oaks Library, 2510 Middlefield Road
Redwood City

"Wild, Wild West" Annual Fundraiser
Wednesday, April 30, 5:30 – 8:00 pm
Children's Room, Downtown Library
Redwood City
(details in enclosed insert)

Donor Appreciation Evening
Summer Dinner & Concert
Date to be announced
Courthouse Plaza, Broadway Street
Redwood City

Redwood City Library Foundation
1044 Middlefield Road • Redwood City, CA 94061
www.rclfdn.org • (650) 780-7045

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Rouslana Yaroslavsky, *Ticket to Travel*

Ex-Officio:

Georgi LaBerge, *Redwood City Library Foundation*
David Genesy, *Redwood City Library*



**Redwood City
Library Foundation**

More than just books.

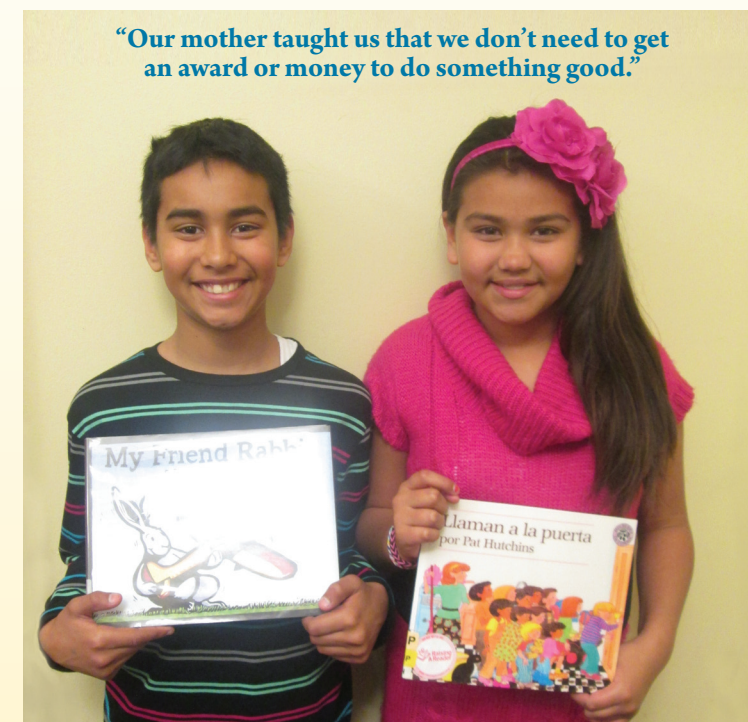
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Enthusiastic Volunteers Contribute to Library's High National Ranking Ages Range from 10 to 88 Years

Without the hundreds of men, women and children who enthusiastically volunteer, the Redwood City Public Library might never have been named by *Library Journal* as one of the highest ranked libraries in the nation. Under the guidance of an excellent library staff, this army of volunteers made possible an array of literacy services, both inside and outside library walls, not matched by other libraries across the country.

During the past year, 1,705 individuals gave 136,000 hours to handle tasks such as collecting, sorting and pricing used books, reading to pre-school children, tutoring children and families, and raising funds for programs and collections. Children as young as 10 years old read to little ones, and seniors in their 80s helped staff the Friends of the Library bookstore.

Among the youngest volunteers are brother and sister, Abraham and Aileen Ochoa, 11 and 10 years old, respectively. They began serving after Aileen offered to help during a storytelling session last year. Soon both were recruited as readers with the Family Bilingual Storytime offered on Tuesday evenings at the Downtown Library. Typically, children, ages 2 – 10, attend with parents or caregivers. Attendance ranges from 20 to 45.



Abraham and Aileen Ochoa, 11 and 10 years old, are readers for the weekly Family Bilingual Storytime at the Downtown Library.



Peggy Pribyl, 88, prices used books for the Friends of the Library bookstore.

Children's Librarian, Armando Ramirez, begins the story session by reading the first page of a book in Spanish. Then Abraham and Aileen take turns reading the page in English.

Though it is unusual to find volunteers so young, it seems the right thing to do for the siblings. "Our mother taught us that we don't need to get an award or money to do something good," said Aileen. "We love reading, and our parents like us to volunteer."

Abraham is in the 6th grade at Kennedy School and Aileen is a 5th grader at Roosevelt School. Aileen thinks she would like to study medicine and treat "either people or animals." Abraham likes the idea of becoming a fireman or policeman.

Among active senior volunteers is Peggy Pribyl, 88, who works several hours a week pricing used books for the Friends of the Library bookstore. During most of her more than 20 years as a library volunteer, Peggy helped staff the bookstore.

"I love to read and the environment here is enjoyable and warm," said Peggy, "I really liked talking to patrons in the bookstore about books that I love."

Her volunteer hours and talents were also appreciated at Cañada College, Notre Dame de Namur University and the Redwood City Senior Center. The center of her world, however, is her loving family of 13 children and their offspring.

Thank you to the many dedicated volunteers who help make Redwood City a more literate community.

Parents & Little Ones Delight in New Interactive Kiosks Your Donations Funded Phase 1



National studies show that up to 90% of a child’s brain develops in the first three years of life.

Thanks to your generous support, the Foundation was able to fund the first phase of the Early Childhood Learning Center this spring. Four amazing learning structures have been installed in the children’s room of the Downtown Library.

The children love them and so do the parents. Josie Villalobos brings her two children (Portia, 2 years, and Emma, 4 weeks) to weekly storytime sessions. Portia then scampers off to play with the new installations in the children’s room. “The structures are great for kids, very interactive, very kid-friendly,” Josie said.

The space is filled with children as young as six months and parents (mostly mothers) who follow their child’s lead by joining in their play. The adults receive cues, in both English and Spanish, on simple things to do to prepare their children to read—talk, sing, read, write and play together.

Though it appears that the children are simply playing, they are actually building early literacy skills such as developing a vocabulary, recognizing print, learning letters, and becoming storytellers.

National studies show that up to 90% of a child’s brain develops in the first three years of life. Children who have loving relationships with a parent/caregiver, and are exposed to language and a stimulating environment in which to play grow best.

“We see the library as a leader in the community in getting our young children ready to learn,” said Library Director Dave Genesy, “We may think that learning begins in kindergarten, but real learning begins at birth.”

The early success of the installed structures has encouraged the library director and children’s librarians to begin plans for Phase 2.

This would include more manipulatives that teach young children pre-literacy skills, book collections organized specifically by age categories, and parent education.

New parenting workshops, taught by trained staff, might include how to build a home library and how to incorporate learning activities into daily life.

Your support for Phase 2 of the Early Childhood Learning Center is very important. We invite you to make a generous donation to help your library continue educating our very youngest citizens. Please send your donation in the envelope included or donate online at www.rclfdn.org. For more information contact Georgi LaBerge at (650) 780-7045.

Dynamic Library Director Retires after 10 Years

I love our libraries. As my career at Redwood City comes to a close, I feel such pride in everyone who has helped make our library great. Our library and city staff, our Board and Council, our supportive Foundation and Friends groups, our more than 1,700 volunteers, our 80,000 customers—this is our library community that creates a five star library.

As I walk through the Downtown Library and see our teens feel at home in their own space; or the over 1,000 people in the children’s room attending KinderCard Saturday; or every one of our 70 computers in the building occupied; or every table full with Project Read tutors and learners; or seeing our readers borrow thousands of books daily, I know our diverse programs and services are utilized and valued from the Shores to Fair Oaks.

I feel blessed that we have created true community-centered libraries, community centers for the mind, that are not just warehouses full of books that are quiet and full of rules, but are engaged and active.

I would love to see anyone who values our stellar libraries, and as a personal gift to me, give generously to the Library Foundation. And thank you for allowing me to serve the Redwood City community. You may send a donation in the enclosed envelope or online at www.rclfdn.org.



Library Director Dave Genesy retires June 30

Many thanks to our generous donors!

The following individuals, groups and businesses contributed between January 1 and December 31, 2013.

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