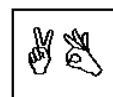


MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY COMMISSION
Proposed Agenda
Wednesday, September 13, 2017
7:00 p.m.

Corte Madera Library

Corte Madera Library --707 Meadowsweet Drive, Corte Madera, CA 94925
 Directions: From Hwy 101 exit west on Tamalpais Dr. Turn left on Sanford & left on Meadowsweet. Library is on the right. In order to assure a quorum, please notify us, if you are unable to attend meeting **473-3222**.

	<u>ITEM</u>	<u>PRESENTER</u>	<u>STATUS</u>
7:00	1. Call to Order	Kathrein	Action
	2. Roll Call	Kathrein	Action
	3. Approval of Agenda	Kathrein	Action
	4. Approval of Minutes – August	Kathrein	Action
	5. Open Time for Public Expression		
	6. Reading & Correspondence File	Kathrein	Information
	7. Corte Madera/Strategic Plan Update	Magnus/Hill	Information
	8. New Business	Kathrein	Information
	a. Overview of Commission Role	Jones	Information
	b. Confirm and Appoint Measure A Committee Members	Kathrein	Action
	9. Old Business		
	a. All Staff Day Update	Kathrein	Information
	10. President's Report for August	Kathrein	Information
	11. Director's Report for August	Jones	Information
	12. Announcements	Kathrein	Information
8:50	13. Adjournment	Kathrein	Action



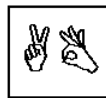
Late agenda material can be inspected in Library Administration, between the hours of 8:00 a.m. and 5:00 p.m (Monday-Friday). Library Administration is located in Room 414 Marin County Civic Center, 3501 Civic Center Drive, San Rafael.

All County public meetings are conducted in accessible locations. If you require American Sign Language interpreters, assistive listening devices or other accommodations to participate in this meeting, these may be requested by calling (415) 473-3222 (Voice) or (415) 473-6172 (TTY) **at least** 72 hours in advance. Copies of documents used in this meeting are available in accessible formats upon written request.

Numbered List of attachments:

4. Minutes for August 9, 2017
12. Library Director's Report for August 9, 2017

Unnumbered Attachments:



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MARIN COUNTY FREE LIBRARY

Novato Library

--PROPOSED MINUTES--

Wednesday, August 9, 2017

(1) CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 7p.m.

(2) ROLL CALL

Present

Margaret Kathrein

Loretta Farley

Barbara Schoen

Sue Beam

Craig Kennedy

Ali Iqbal

Ann Kaplan

Tyrone Cannon

John MacLeod

Absent with Notification

Helen Fauss

Anya Schandler

Nick Javaras

Sally Hauser

Linda Ward

Also Present

Sara Jones, Director of County Library Services

Scott Bauer, Deputy Director of County Library Services

Edna Guadiana, Administrative Assistant II

Janet Doerge, Branch Manager, Novato/South Novato branches

Mildred Arencibia, Metadata Librarian

Suella Kennedy, Collection Development Librarian-Adult – Tech Svcs

Clara McFadden, Collection Development Librarian-Children-Tech Svcs

(3) ADOPTION OF AGENDA

M/S/C-Kennedy/Schoen--Agenda approved as submitted

(4) ADOPTION OF MINUTES

M/S/C/ - Schandler/Schoen minutes approved as submitted

(5) OPEN TIME FOR PUBLIC EXPRESSION

Director Jones requested that newly appointed Commissioner from District 2, Sue Beam tell the Library Commission a little bit about herself. Sue Beam stated that she was excited to be here. Sue also serves as treasure for the Marin Literacy Project.

(6) READING & CORRESPONDENCE FILE

Reading file was routed for all to read. President Kathrein added 2 articles to reading folder, which Commissioner Hauser sent her about the 175 birthday of Frank Lloyd Wright.

Collection Management

Or How To Keep Our Libraries From Looking Like This!!!



Hit Parade – Movies on DVD

Quiz 1:

Name one of the top ten movies ***circulated*** in the last three months.

Hit Parade – Movies on DVD

Title & Lead Actors
1. Arrival (Amy Adams & Jeremy Renner)
2. Manchester by the Sea (Casey Affleck & Michelle Williams)
3. The Girl on the Train (Emily Blunt & Rebecca Ferguson)
4. La La Land (Ryan Gosling & Emma Stone)
5. Passengers (Anne Hathaway & Patrick Wilson)
6. The Accountant (Ben Affleck & Anna Kendrick)
7. Moonlight (Trevante Rhodes & Naomie Harris)
8. Sully (Tom Hanks & Aaron Eckhart)
9. The Dressmaker (Kate Winslet & Judy Davis)
10. Allied (Brad Pitt & Marion Cotillard)

It starts with a Budget

- For Fiscal Year 2017-2018:
 - Adult & Teen Print Materials = \$375,000
 - Children's Print Materials = \$208,000
 - Adult & Teen Media = \$140,000
 - Children's Media = \$55,000
 - Digital Materials (including eBooks) = \$80,000
- **TOTAL COLLECTIONS BUDGET = \$858,000**



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It starts with a Budget (cont.)

- Then it gets subdivided into smaller pots
- Subdivisions are based on many factors, including:
 - Audience
 - Language
 - Format
 - Popularity/Circulation
 - Local Need/Project
- Spending is spaced as evenly throughout the year as possible – but publisher schedules don't always mesh.

How does selection work?

- What informs our choices?
 - MCFL Collection Development Policy
 - Availability of materials through our vendors
 - Selection Criteria include:
 - Professional reviews
 - Patron requests
 - Branch and community needs
 - Budgetary considerations
 - Award winners



- ☐ yes
- ☐ no
- ☐ maybe

How does selection work? (cont.)

- Alternatives to ownership - Link+/ILL/Consortium/Digital Content
 - Luckily, we don't have to own every title!
 - Overdrive, Hoopla and RBDigital provide content without needing shelf space.
 - Access to our local consortium and to libraries across the state and nationwide give patrons a broad scope of possibilities.



Hit Parade – Adult Biographies

Quiz 2:

Name one of the personalities who was the subject of one of the top ten most ***circulated*** biographies.

Hit Parade – Adult Biographies

Title & Personality	
1.	Can't We Talk About Something More Pleasant? (Roz Chast)
2.	Wild (Cheryl Strayed)
3.	The Immortal Life of Henrietta Lacks (Henrietta Lacks)
4.	God's Hotel (Victoria Sweet)
5.	This Is the Story of a Happy Marriage (Ann Patchett)
6.	Not That Kind of Girl (Lena Dunham)
7.	My Beloved World (Sonia Sotomayor)
8.	Barbarian Days (William Finnegan)
9.	Blue Nights (Joan Didion)
10.	Grace (Eventually) (Anne Lamott)

Patron-driven purchases

- Accounting for the community
 - Selection is based on local demand, circulation statistics, and strategic plan goals.
 - Readers have many avenues to make suggestions from our website, email to selectors or in person at local branches.
 - Selectors are attuned to community needs and provide support.
 - Support for school curricula by purchasing materials suggested by teachers. Several branches have dedicated School Shelves.



Patron-driven purchases (cont.)

- Over the course of a month:
 - Adult received 137 requests and 88% were purchased.
 - Children and Teen received 29 requests and 75% were purchased.
 - Spanish received 9 requests and 100% were purchased.
- We try to buy all suggestions, but we can't when...
 - A title is out of print or unavailable for purchase
 - A title is unsuitable for our collection, such as an academic publication
 - The cost of the title is prohibitive
 - Budget is tight and the title is available from other libraries

Floating

- What is a floating collection?
 - Items are shelved at the location where they are checked in
 - Items move freely among all locations
 - Keeps collections refreshed
 - Different materials all the time!
 - Enhances discovery
 - Avoids “stale” collections
 - Saves money in delivery costs



Collections by format

- | | | |
|--|--|---|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Physical Items<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Books (80%)▪ Movies, Documentaries, and TV Series (10%)▪ Audiobooks (CD, MP3, and Playaways) (4%)▪ Periodicals (3%)▪ Music (2%) | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Kits 'n Stuff<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Bird Watching Kits▪ Museum and Park Passes▪ Electric Meters▪ Chrome Books▪ iPads & Kindles▪ Mobile Hotspots▪ Go Play Kits▪ Games and Activity Kits▪ Book Club Kits | <ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Electronic Content<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ e-Books▪ e-Audiobooks▪ Streaming Music, Movies, and TV Series▪ Digital Magazines▪ Archival Materials<ul style="list-style-type: none">▪ Maps▪ Local Authors & History▪ Government Documents▪ Memorabilia▪ Microfilm |
|--|--|---|

Hit Parade – Children’s Picture Books

Quiz 3:

Name one of the top ten ***circulating*** Children’s Picture Books in the last three months.

Hit Parade – Children's Picture Books

Title & Author	
1.	Pete the Cat (Eric Litwin)
2.	Don't Let the Pigeon Drive the Bus (Mo Willems)
3.	The Very Hungry Caterpillar (Eric Carle)
4.	Where's Waldo? (Martin Handford)
5.	Pete the Cat and His Four Groovy Buttons (Eric Litwin)
6.	Knuffle Bunny (Mo Willems)
7.	Where the Wild Things Are (Maurice Sendak)
8.	The Day the Crayons Quit (Drew Daywalt)
9.	Miss Nelson Is Missing! (Harry Allard)
10.	Pete the Cat and the Missing Cupcakes (Kim Dean)

Collections in other languages

Spanish

- The largest of the foreign language collections
 - Books (73%)
 - Movies & TV (16%)
 - Music (6%)
 - Audiobooks (3%)
 - Periodicals (2%)
- Highest circulation
 - Novato & Bookmobile – Everything!
 - Point Reyes – Children's books
 - Corte Madera – Adult Fiction and Self-Help
 - Fairfax – Music



Collections in other languages (cont.)



Selection is informed by

- Publishing reviews
- Best seller's lists outside the U.S.
- Book fairs
- Patron and staff recommendations
- Vendor availability
- Specific publishers like Noda Audiovisual
- Circulation numbers

Anything by popular authors like Isabel Allende

Collections in other languages (cont.)

- Russian and French
 - Small collection of Russian adult and children's books at the Civic Center
 - Small collection of French children's books at CMA
 - Collections built by suggestions from patrons and staff
 - \$7,500 grant for bilingual children's books in Farsi, Hindi, Vietnamese, Chinese, Tagalog, French and even Braille

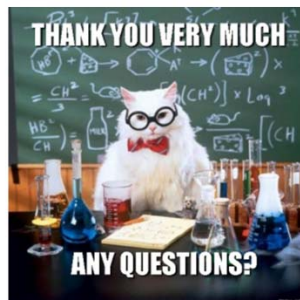


Managing the Collection

- Improve the browsing experience for patrons
- Redistribute floating items that pool at one branch and fill in when inventory gets low at another branch
- Monitor the collection to get the best/most use out of our items
- Use circulation and other statistics to identify popular subjects and authors

De-Selection

- A necessary part of collection management that keeps the collection relevant and fresh
- Reuse...
 - Teacher Palooza
 - Book Place – the Friends of the Library bookstore
 - Thrift Books – sales benefitting the Friends
 - Juvenile Detention and County Jail
 - NorthNet Libraries
 - Other County Departments
- ... and Recycle. Our goal of zero waste nearly achieved!



After a brief question and answer period, President Kathrein thanked the group for their presentation

(8) NEW BUSINESS

- All Staff Day 10-06-17—The Focus of the Day will be “Equity and the keynote speaker will be President of the PLA, Felton Thomas, who is also the Cleveland Public Library Director. Everyone is invited to attend all or part of this day.
- Commission D2 & D3 applicants – Director Jones commented that there were so many applicants vying for both District 2 and District 3. Sara welcomed Sue Ream our newly appointed Commissioner from District 2. She hopes to have District 3 appointment prior to next month's meeting

(9) OLD BUSINESS -- NONE

(10) PRESIDENT'S REPORT FOR JUNE/JULY

The Library's presence at the County Fair during the 4th of July holiday was very successful and fun. The highlight of the event seemed to be the “free book” giveaway to the public.

(11) DIRECTOR'S REPORT FOR JUNE/JULY

Director Jones announced that this would be Deputy Director Scott Bauer last Library Commission. Scott's last day of working for the Marin County Free Library, will be this Friday, August 11. He has accepted a new job as the Director of the Pacific Grove Library. Andrew Yon's last day was July 28. He accepted a job with the Pacific Library Systems (PLS) Director Jones handed out a new Interim Reporting Structure sheet to the Commission which showed the Balancing # of reports.

(12) ANNOUNCEMENTS

(13) ADJOURNMENT – M/S/C-Ward/Schoen-Meeting adjourned @ 7:55 p.m

Library Director's Report
August 2017
Sara Jones, Director of County Library Services
Marin County Free Library

Personnel (Florence Pattison)

There were 67 applications received for the part time Library Assistant I at Stinson Beach and two full days of interviews took place at the Stinson Beach library on Wednesday, August 9, and Thursday, August 10, 2017. Aaron Fong, a Library Aide at Technical Services, was offered the position and started on Monday, August 28, 2017.

Interviews for the vacant Librarian II position at Fairfax, created by the retirement of Theresa McGovern, took place on Tuesday, August 22, 2017. Eight candidates were interviewed and Raemona Little Taylor was selected. Raemona's first day with MCFL will be Monday, September 25.

10 candidates for the Mobile Library Assistant (Bookmobile) were interviewed on August 9 and 10, 2017. Neil Vickers, an extra hire who currently drives the Bookmobile and the FLAGship was selected and his first day or regular hire employment will be Sunday, September 10, when the Bookmobile will be part of the Library Foundation's Fundraiser at South Novato.

Interviews for the new Senior Librarian position, (Education Initiatives Coordinator) at South Novato will take place on Wednesday, September 6, 2017. Four candidates will be interviewed.

Recruitments for the following will be started in the near future.

- Deputy Director of County Library Services
- Administrative Services Manager
- Library Assistant I, Marin City
- Library Assistant II, Marin City
- Library Services Manager, Technical Services
- Library Aide, Technical Services
- Librarian II, Novato
- Library Assistant I, Fairfax

The Accounting Assistant position in Administration continues to be filled by an extra hire employee but we hope to determine the appropriate class specification and hire for this position ASAP.

Library Activities:

Outreach/ Bookmobile (Damon Hill)

Facilities

No major updates. Most of August was working on Administrative preparation work for the Electrical Panel projects with a kick off with the electrical contractor scheduled for 9/11.

Veterans Resource Center

Damon and Volunteer Norman Nayfach traveled to Los Angeles to present information on the *Standing Down* book club to libraries across California participating in the Veterans Connect program. Norman spoke for 45 minutes about how to pull the club together and successes in Marin County. The rest of the workshop provided programming ideas for Veterans and idea exchanges for supporting Veterans and their families. (*Goal 4-Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.*)

Staffing

Neil Vickers accepted position as Mobile Library Assistant on August 30th with an anticipated official start date of Sunday September 10th. Neil has been a contingent employee for the Bookmobile, FLAGship and has been working at the San Rafael library. Damon Hill assumed interim Deputy Director Duties with the departure of Scott Bauer to Library Direct at Pacific Grove.

Keith Wayne will be assisting with some graphical support in the Media Technician continent hours and will be supervised by Jen Robinson.

Outreach Activities

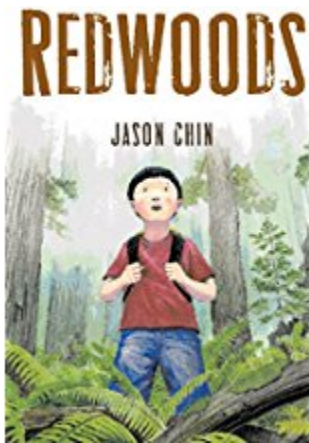
Sunday, August 6th was our third time at the Novato Space Festival. The event is completely free for families and features many interactive exhibits to intrigue space fans of all ages. We brought our ever popular Cubelet Robots and Strawbees building sets and there was not a moment during the day when all stations were not in use. The attendance at the festival was estimated at over 7000----and I believe they were all at our tables at one time or another. Thank you so much the Sharon Ho and Neil Vickers for wrangling robots and Strawbees and making the day a great one for the families who came. As usual at these events, people are amazed to learn that these are programs that the library provides and are excited to learn more. There was also a wonderful Q and A session with a panel of astronauts who attended the event. The questions from young and old alike were thoughtful and engaging. (*Goal 1-Preferred place for children/families to connect, learn and grow together.*)



Our Summer Challenge this year has been a great success! We added Lynwood School as a stop and brought projects and books to all of our ranch stops and child development centers. The projects were wildly popular and the kids were ready and waiting to see what the next project would be. On our final visit for the ranches on August 9th, Jasmine Reinhardt, National Park Ranger, organized a trip to Muir Woods and Muir beach for the families. We had 42 people on the trip and it was a fantastic experience. Before this trip, only 1 person had ever been to Muir Woods so it was a new experience for everyone else. Two of our kids use wheelchairs and I'm happy to say that both Muir Woods and Muir Beach were very accessible for all. We provided plenty of food and snacks so the energy levels were up as we made it through the exciting day. On our way home on the bus, each child was given a copy of the book, Redwoods, which showed so much of what we saw that day in words and illustration. Many sleepy kids were captivated by the books as we headed home on the bus. (Thank you to the Library Foundation)

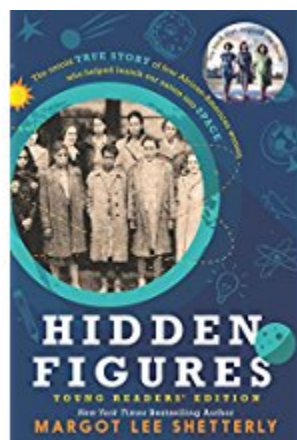
(Goal 2- Support youth with opportunities for self-discovery and expression)

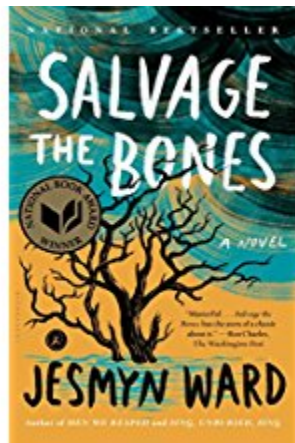




We began a new school year supporting our 2 one-room schools with materials and story times. We really have deepened our school and child development support over the years and have gained a greater understanding of the curriculum and subject areas needed. All of our child development centers have started the school year studying “All About Me”, one of the gladed sections of our picture books. Here’s the definition of the category: Emotions, going to school, potty training, giving up the binkie of blankie, manners, sharing and making new friends.” It has always been a challenge to sort out the picture books into categories but now we can point to the books with red stickers and start teachers on their way. Our next challenge will be to do something similar with our Spanish picture books, which are used as frequently. Keeping the collection fresh and current is not the most exciting thing we do but it makes the library experience for our patrons so much better. Books taken out of our collection get new life in the libraries of classrooms who need them so it is a great incentive to keep the project going.
(Goal 2- Support youth with opportunities for self-discovery and expression)

Our stops at our assisted living facilities---The Redwoods, Aegis, Deer Park, Atria, Los Robles and Rotary Valley---continue to be well attended. The Redwoods Book Club selections are a great cross section of books worth discussing. We provide the club members with copies of the books and get the feedback when they are done. Check out the fascinating selection for this fall, below:





(Goal 4-Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)

Damon Hill attended the regular volunteer coordinators meeting on August 3rd. The primary agenda item was planning for the Volunteering Board of Supervisor event on August 15th where all County Departments were honored with recognition by the Board. Damon and Kathleen Remitz spoke and introduced 5 Library honorees.

Civic Center (Eva Patterson)

Our staff is saddened by the shooting at the Clovis-Carver Public Library in New Mexico. We offer our thoughts and prayers for the families of the victims, the wounded, library staff, and the community. We have been discussing safe spaces for patrons and staff in our library for some time and this tragic event puts safety at the forefront of our minds. Eva met with County safety officer Dean Joyner to develop active-shooter and shelter-in-place plans for the branch. An on-site walk through revealed some immediate facility issues – window coverings, locks on doors, and re-enforcement of doors – we need to address. Next steps are developing a plan and training staff.

We want to announce a new member of our regular team: Anne McCamman, library aide, who began work on August 28.

Staff fielded hundreds of phone calls from Marin patrons and residents on the search for solar eclipse glasses. Thanks to a well-publicized effort in print, online, and on the radio, people believed that their local library had been given solar eclipse glasses to distribute. Unfortunately, this was not the case for all libraries, including the Civic Center. The calls became so numerous that someone started a tally that marked at least 235 calls in the week leading up to the eclipse. We did our best to inform callers where they might get the special glasses or alternative methods for viewing e.g. how to make a pinhole camera. *(Mission – Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate)*

Patron interaction of note: A child of about 6 came to the desk with his mom and younger brother, handing over a book with a torn page, a story to tell, and an offer of apology. The boy was articulate in the telling of the torn page—the love of the book, the fight with the brother, resulting in the damage. He apologized and asked about the consequences. Teresa thanked him for his honesty and taking responsibility for the torn page, but as it was minor damage (and fixed very nicely) there would be no

extra fine to pay. He was greatly relieved and we all felt proud of how he and his mom handled the situation. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together)*

Thanks to our excellent team of student volunteers, Civic Center signed up 470 children this summer for our Summer Challenge. Parents and caregivers expressed their gratitude and many of them noticed their child's reading competency grow throughout the summer.

Kathleen held five drop-in family craft/steam programs to intentionally embed Mind in the Making ideas and promote the *Seven Essential Life Skills*. The Jedi Training Program with Andy Zandy introduced kids to mindfulness and techniques to promote *7ELS #1 Focus & Self Control*. Adequate space for programming continues to be a challenge for Kathleen, but we were lucky to get through the summer without the noise of work on the Civic Center roof. Denise presented her first "music and movement class" to the delight of a small group of patrons and several drop-in staff members. She has been busy gathering songs and ideas and working with Kathleen to make this new class for the entire family fun. Victor also led the August Lego Club for a small but focused group. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together)*

Our "Civic Center Favorites" picture book glade was able to offer some peace for the families of infant Railee who died at just several weeks old. Kathleen worked with Railee's grandmother Linda Cox to create a small picture book collection for friends and family to see on the one-year anniversary of Railee's death. Linda expressed great comfort in knowing that other families will read these books to their children and think of Railee. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together)*

Kathleen and Damon Hill attended the Marin County Volunteer Recognition event on 8/15/17. Kathleen was proud to speak and acknowledge four volunteers: Anna Qui, Satvik Namburo, Kameelah Amilcar and Jeremiah Amilcar. It was pleasing to have the youngest county volunteer at 9 ½ years old, Jeremiah, alongside the county's oldest volunteer at 97 years old. *(Goal 2 – Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression)*

Kathleen, Sara Hathaway (Nov) and Liz Paris (consultant) worked steadily to enter all of the staff input from the MITM staff training. Sara Hathaway did a superb job creating Google spreadsheets and forms to sort, organize, and codify our findings. The final grant report is due September 30. Kathleen, Sara, and Liz will meet with Sara Jones to share their final report and talk about next steps. Kathleen and Liz will provide a 30-minute presentation about this at the next All Staff Day. Kathleen, Margaret Miles (FAI), and Suzanne Flint (grant coordinator) will be presenters at the California Library Association conference in Riverside, CA. Details to follow in subsequent monthly reports. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers **And Staff** to connect, learn and grow together)*

Elmer provided 87 Craig's List postings by phone to disabled patron in San Rafael. He produced the book list, *Weight Management*, for the Marin County Employee Wellness Program as an online list in Bibliocommons, and for in-branch distribution. He proctored three exams and introduced library services to seven new county employees. Elmer accessed the Exploratorium's live stream of the August 21 solar eclipse on the branch's digital display and opened the library doors early for public and county-

employee patrons (20). (*Goal 4 – Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning*)



Elmer and Linda double-teamed ILL requests: 8 books, one microfilm. Linda posted *Solar Eclipse Viewing* to the MCFL Library Blog and produced the online book list, *What to Read While You're Waiting for the Man in Moscow*, posted in Bibliocommons. Linda coordinated programs: Energy Upgrade California presented by Kellen Dammann, Marin County Sustainability Outreach Specialist (12), and Degas, Impressionism and the Paris Millinery Trade presented by Julia Geist, docent with the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco (60)

The Brown Bag Book Club met to discuss *White Teeth* by Zadie Smith (5) and *To the Lighthouse* by Virginia Woolf (4). Displays for: Astronomy & solar eclipse information, Degas and the Impressionists, DIY/How To! (Teen), and Ben Affleck • August 15, 1972 (DVDs). Elmer contributed personal memorabilia to the California Room Rock Music in Marin County display (*Goal 4 – Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning*)

Natalie created a Social Justice Bibliocommons book list for teens. She hosted the Marin County Youth Commission swearing-in and parent/commissioner orientation, and supervised 18 volunteer hours among six volunteers who supported teen programs and completed two shifting projects in teen fiction and graphic novels. Natalie initiated outreach to the public schools for the upcoming school year, and visited Juvenile Hall to talk about and distribute new books for their library. Natalie brought her first Teen Summer Challenge to its completion with 112 sign-ups (first time scratcher collectors), 175 book reviews, and 148 total attendance at 10 teen programs that included:

Bad Art Night (14)



- Teen Gaming (6)



- *Guardians of the Galaxy* and Pizza Night (17)
- Duct Tape Wallets (9)



Elmer provided three one-on-one patron-assistance sessions: downloading eBooks via Libby; downloading eAudiobooks to an iPhone; downloading Kindle-format eBooks to a Kindle Paperwhite. Elmer produced instructions for accessing internet-based streaming content on branch digital displays, shared with other branches on the intranet. *(Goal 3 – Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy)*

Victor participated in two interview panels this month: One for the Library Assistant I position in Stinson Beach and the second the Book Mobile assistant position. Tricia trained a new Library Aide extra hire, Paula Sullivan. Natalie attended the Dare to Dream Ted Talk and discussion, completed her one-year performance review, and attended the county Rights/Responsibilities PMR 23 training. Linda and Natalie completed CHQ/Gizmo training from Technical Services staff. *(Mission – Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate)*

Eva served on the hiring board for the FAI L2. She attended the GARE train the trainer session and participated in an online meeting to prepare GARE Public Library issue paper. Eva worked with the Friends of the Civic Center Library to plan their upcoming annual meeting. She is in discussion with Damon to bring the Veterans Resource Center to CCE from its current space at SNO.

Anne T. Kent California Room (Laurie Thompson)

The California Room truly “hit the jackpot,” thanks to a substantial grant from local philanthropist Jeff Craemer. Jeff asked that I submit to him a “wishlist” of the California Room’s needs for this fiscal year

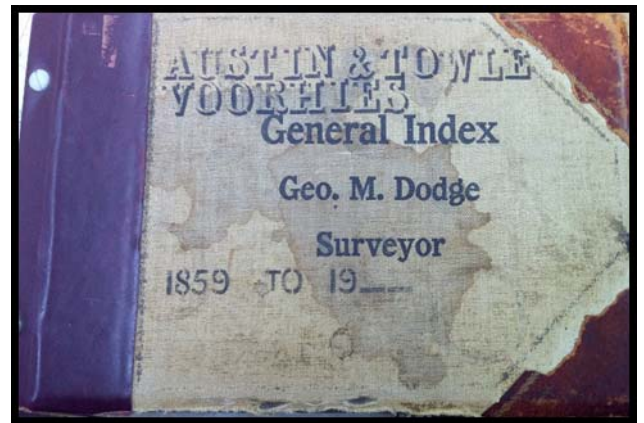


and then proceeded to fund everything on that list via a donation of Exxon Mobil stock, the proceeds of which provided us with \$41,212.88! Thanks to Jeff: 1. we will be able to fund this year’s oral history program; 2. contract with *Act3 Partners Digital Archiving Services* to digitize thousands of maps and affiliated materials in the Schroeder Map Collection; 3. purchase 20 five-drawer flat files, shelving units and other archival materials to preserve our maps and primary source materials. (*Goal 1- Preferred place for children/families to connect, learn and grow together*).

Act3 Partners Digital Archiving Services just completed a two-

day project to digitize 5 historic indexes to the Schroeder map collection, totaling 2000 pages. They captured each image as a 24MB 4000 X 6000 Pixel “Raw” file, Adobe.dng, and also provided us with the corresponding uncompressed Tif files. We plan to post these 5 index volumes on our digital archive which will allow patrons to remotely access these key guides to the upwards of 30,000 maps and surveys in the Schroeder collection, c.1859 to 1988.

(*Goal 3- Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy*).



Thanks to volunteer and professional photographer Brad Rippe, the sixth index volume in the Schroeder collection -which captures the surveys done by *Engineering Field Services* in the 1970s- has been digitized. Digital Archivist Carol Acquaviva carried out metadata creation and post-production work on Brad’s digital files and has posted a test version of the volume to our CONTENTdm database. Volunteer and local surveyor Phil Danskin, “test-drove” the digitized prototype and was duly impressed. In the coming month, Carol plans to add additional metadata to make the volume more user-friendly. (*Goal 3- Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy*).

On August 14th oral historian Laurie Thompson interviewed Royce McLemore. Royce grew a young adult where she educational resources and where she also became a strong housing. Royce was a leader in “Women Helping All People” of the Cumper Learning Center. working with the committee Green-designed housing in Historical Landmark status. *(4-stages with opportunities for independent learning).*



Marilyn Geary and Librarian long-time Marin City resident up in Marin City and returned as became active in creating schools for local residents and advocate for fair and affordable creating the organization which led to the establishment Recently, Royce has been which has nominated the Aaron Marin City for California State *Support adults through life self-development and*



On August 28th, Marilyn Geary & Laurie Thompson interviewed Joan Brown who was recruited by the County of Marin to establish the Civic Center Volunteer Office in the late 1970s. Joan enlightened us about the financial challenges faced by the County of Marin following the passage of Proposition 13 and discussed the very successful volunteer program which she developed over several decades. We also learned about Joan’s extensive community service and environmental activism. We’ve scheduled a second interview with Joan to focus on her advocacy of the Frank Lloyd Wright-designed Civic Center and her friendship with many of those who played a leading role in getting the Civic Center built and preserved. *(4- Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning).*





Digital Archivist Carol Acquaviva has published one of our popular pieces of ephemera to our digital archive. It's the program from the Larkspur-Corte Madera Lion's club 1949 *49'er Fiesta* which commemorated the discovery of gold by John Marshall at Sutter's Mill in 1849. The *Fiesta* featured parades, contests, dancing and the crowning of *Senorita Marin*. Among the attractions highlighting life in early California was a mobile "hoosegow" (*juzgado* or Spanish jail), a wandering 49'er-era miner and a 49'er camp. Check it out [here](#). (*Goal 3- Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy*).

Corte Madera Library (Julie Magnus)



Interest swelled in the days leading up to the solar eclipse on Monday, August 21, as we received numerous calls and questions about eclipse glasses. Given the overcast weather in the vicinity of the library that morning, Shereen Ash, Librarian II, created an impromptu program for the partial solar eclipse, setting up a live stream on the monitor in the Community Room and patrons watched for as long as they wanted to. They were appreciative of the chance to see the eclipse. It was a fun way for people to come together and share the event. A man with a big pile of books told us: "The library is so cool! So addictive!" He also thanked us for our display on the eclipse and solar system. Along with the books, we had created a bookmark with info about the eclipse, including apps and websites with resources, like NASA, to provide a learning opportunity. (*Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together. Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.*)

The Summer Challenge for kids at the library kicked into high gear in August, and many generous kids donated book bucks to our designated charity this year, Foster Kids, reports Marilyn Wronsky, Librarian II, Children's. There has been lots of reading going on, as kids proudly shared their reading logs with us! Many kids also enjoyed the Kids Book Club selection for August, *The Bad Beginning*. The visit by the Wildcare Ambassadors was a highlight, and well-attended, as kids eagerly learned about the owl and opossum visitors. (*Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.*)

Teen summer book club met a second time to talk about *Ready Player One*. Sarah Butts, Youth Services Librarian, reports that the group this summer was cohesive and engaged. They all looked forward to recommending and discussing other titles with each other as well. (*Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.*)

20 teens joined us for our end-of-summer Marvel movie double feature. Of course pizza was consumed—thanks to the Corte Madera Friends! Their shared appreciation of the Marvel universe

allowed kids who didn't previously know each other to start conversations about favorite characters, what they want to see next in movies and the comics, and to discuss the MCU as it stands now. Geektastic! (*Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.*)

As part of the Teen Summer Challenge, we encouraged teens to create their own emojis – and had quite a collection by the end of the summer. (*Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.*)



The library is all about “value-added”, from people coding to creating with LEGOs! Libraries help people find the information they need, enjoy reading and the new worlds books can open up for them, learn about new things with opportunities to build, craft and code, experience ideas in events and programs, get exposure to technology and the Internet, and learn about their community. Kids and adults have the opportunity to volunteer at the library, too. Two teen volunteers, Austin Patel and Achintha Poduval from Redwood High School’s computer club, have been teaching a youth coding class at Corte Madera Library this summer to great acclaim. They worked with Marilyn Wronsky, Librarian II, Children’s, to set up and publicize the class. They’re coming back, due to popular demand, to do another session starting in October.

But these teens also give more of their time after Coding Class to create special one-of-a kind LEGO builds for our Summer Challenge prizes. Kids love to watch Austin and Achintha make the builds, and then, they are quickly snapped up by kids with book bucks.



The LEGOS have been generously donated by families to the library. Several other teen volunteers have helped sort and package these LEGOS to make fun gift bags—some of loose LEGOs, some with pieces to create a particular model, like the heli-cruiser that Nathan Seaman, another teen volunteer, crafted. Over 40 gift bags were assembled and given away this summer. (*Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together. Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.*)

Baby Bounce is continuing to draw new families, especially now that school is back in session. Several new parents/grandparents each week stop by the desk to say thanks and mention how much they enjoyed it.

(*Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.*)

The spontaneous Mah Jongg class, established after last month's presentation on the game as part of our programming for adults, was a big success. All members were excited to learn the game and four of them will go on to set up a regular game. This is a great example of achieving our mission: *Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate. (Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*

Marin Poetry Center Summer Traveling Show is back again for their second reading of the summer. This is always a popular and well attended event. *(Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*

Our Thursday morning Adult Coloring group has been going strong all summer, creating, de-stressing, and forming friendships. *(Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*



Patrons continue to rely on us for help with reading and listening to books on their various devices: smartphones, ereaders and tablets, mostly. Just this month, we helped a person locate an ebook from the library that they had "lost" when they transferred it to their NOOK, and worked with another patron to troubleshoot a problem with downloading an e-audiobook to their smartphone. The value added by library staff members in these situations is much appreciated by our patrons. *(Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.)*

Docents from the Fine Arts Museums of San Francisco presented an illustrated lecture on "Degas, Impressionism, and the Paris Millinery Trade", the current exhibit at the Legion of Honor Museum in San Francisco, to 45 art-lovers on August 8. *(Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*

Heard at the Info Desk: A grandparent today wanted to complement our library. He said he has been getting books here for his grandsons for the past 6 years. This library always has such a wonderful variety, he never fails to find something interesting. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

Heard at the Info Desk: A woman with her elderly mom walked in today and said they were "tourists" from Novato and that she is taking her mom around visiting all the branches. They liked the lighting and all the windows and checked out some LT books. *(Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*

Ana Stanescu, Librarian I, shares that a mom was asking for documentaries on Hiroshima and Nagasaki. She said that her child (who was probably a 1st or 2nd grader) came home from school one day that week having heard conversation about the news and about President Trump's remarks on sending nuclear missiles to North Korea. She came home scared and with questions, so the mom wanted a documentary that would show what those nuclear bombings were like, and testimonies from the survivors. We found some resources that would be good for both her and her child, and a documentary that she was interested in just for herself.

It made me think about how things happen out in the world and patrons come to us for help understanding what's happening, educating themselves and their families. I think it shows the importance of being responsive to current events and building that relationship with patrons, of being a trusted resource and a grounding place to turn to in times of uncertainty and confusion. These ideas partly formed the impetus behind creating a "History of free speech, white nationalism, and fascism in the U.S" display and blog post. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together. Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*



Marin City Library (Diana Lopez)

July 28, as part of our partnership with the National Park Service facilitated by National Park Service Ranger Jasmine Reinhardt, Etienne Douglas, Faheem Bassa, and Felecia Gaston--Founder and Executive Director of Performing Stars of Marin--took a group of kids and parents to Alcatraz. Many of them had not been there before. Ranger Jasmine gave the group a personal tour, and they got to see and touch artifacts like a large key to one of the cells. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*



On August 1, as part of Summer Learning Challenge, Diana Lopez did a Slime Science program. Kayla Thompson, Faheem Bassa and Chris Do pitched in to help we had 30 kids for the program! Kids made their own slime and learned about the science behind how the ingredients combined to make the slime. They used food coloring, beads, glitter, and other ingredients to customize their slime and add sensory play to it. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*



A 3D printer patron donated a spool of flexible material to the library to support our continued program. *(Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.) (Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.)*

The National Night Out event on August 1 in Marin City took place at Golden Gate Village with a barbecue and drinks provided by the Marin County Sheriff's Office. Other first responders included Marin County Sheriff Office's Search and Rescue (who did rescue demonstrations), Marin County Fire Department, and California Highway Patrol's Marin Field Office. Reverend Rondall Legget, pastor of the First Missionary Baptist Church was there, and there was a live band. Diana Lopez helped to coordinate community support for Deputy Sheriff Jerod Kansanback for the event. Community partners such as Marin Housing Authority; Marin County Health and Human Services and Marin City CX3; representatives from the Sausalito Marin City School District (Superintendent Will McCoy and new staff from Bayside MLK: Principal David Finnane; Felicia Younger, Parent Liaison; and Jennifer Puckett, Community School Coordinator); and the Create Peace Project were in attendance. Marin Housing Authority's Cynthia Green and Marin City Library staff (Diana Lopez, Etienne Douglas, and Kayla Thompson) gave out children's books. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

On August 3, Bridge the Gap brought over 36 kids to turn in their summer challenge reading logs and collect prizes. We even had an impromptu storytime! *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*

On August 3, Etienne Douglas, Misbahmoon, Faheem Bassa, Chantel Walker (Chair of Marin County Library Foundation), and Sara Jones were featured in ALA's newsletter about the fight for Institute of Museum and Library Services in Washington D.C.



On Friday, August 4 we had our Summer Reading Challenge VIP Pizza Party which was sponsored by Marin Housing Authority and the Friends of the Marin City Library. We invited 25 participants who did the most reading over the summer for an after-hours pizza exclusive party in the library. Lewis Jordan from Marin Housing Authority funded the pizzas and Cynthia Green from Marin Housing brought them to the library. Lewis gave provided some inspiring words and encouraged the kids to keep reading. Some parents were also in attendance. We played bingo for fun prizes, watched a movie, and played more games. One of the parents said to Diana Lopez, "Libraries were never like this when I was growing up." *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

On August 5, Etienne Douglas hosted a Video Game Day as part of our Teen Summer Reading Challenge Program. We had 26 participants who ate pizza, snacks, and played lots of different games. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.) (Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.)*

Our 3D printing workshop as part of our Teen Summer Reading Challenge Program had 6 participants on August 6. Etienne Douglas taught them how to design for 3D printing and each participant got to design and print their own object. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.) (Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.)*

Becky Tuttle set up a program date with the Marin Poetry Center Summer Traveling Show on August 8. We had over 40 attendees who enjoyed listening to local poets read from their works. Lively discussion followed the readings. *(Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*



Between August 9 through August 13, Diana Lopez and Etienne Douglas attended the 10th National Conference of African American Librarians in Atlanta. The theme of this year's conference, organized by the Black Caucus of the American Library Association (BCALA), was "Beyond Library Walls: Innovative Ways to Engage Our Communities." Diana and Etienne presented a lightning session they called "Bringing It: Library Youth STEAM Education Programs Out in the Community," during which they talked about the weekly maker club that we held at Bayside-Martin Luther King, Jr. Academy, a K-8 public school. (Each week we had a hands-on, STEAM related activity for the kids. We had programs such as creating their own light-up LED plush monsters; stomp rockets, 3D printing, and more.) Etienne talked about his digital literacy project conducted in collaboration with the Phoenix Project of Marin, Manzanita Child Development Center's after school program, and the Marin City Community Services District.

Diana and Etienne attended the pre-conference African-American Heritage Tour. The tour took them to the Martin Luther King, Jr. Center, the Historic Ebenezer Baptist Church, through the city of Atlanta and Historically Black Colleges such as Clark Atlanta University, Morehouse College, and Spelman College. We also saw the Margaret Mitchell House where she wrote *Gone with the Wind*. During the conference, they met also networked with colleagues and met several famous artists including Jason Reynolds, author of the YA novel *All American Boys*, a 2016 Coretta Scott King Author Honor book and recipient of the Walter Dean Myers Award for Outstanding Children's Literature; American children's book illustrator and 2010 Caldecott Medalist Jerry Pinkney; Margot Lee Shetterly, author of *Hidden Figures*; and U.S. Representative for Georgia's 5th congressional district and prominent Civil Rights leader, John Lewis. Diana and Etienne came away with many ideas for programs and collection development for the Marin City Library and MCFL as a whole. In our down time we also toured the Georgia Aquarium and the Center for Civil and Human Rights. The Center visit was powerful.

(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.) (Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.) (Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)



Becky Tuttle has been working with Laurel Botsford from Shared Hope International to present a three-part documentary/discussion series on human trafficking. August 15 was the second part of the series, Laurel facilitated a viewing/discussion of the powerful documentary *I am Jane Doe* about child sex trafficking and the mother of several victims fighting for justice. Ten attendees asked many questions following the film. (*Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.*) (*Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.*)

Diana Lopez applied for and received solar eclipse viewing glasses from the Space Science Institute (SSI) and a grant from the Gordon and Betty Moore Foundation. Marin City Library gave out 1,000 pairs of solar eclipse glasses. For a programs about the sun, on August 17, Diana did a kids' program using UV light sensitive beads. The beads changed color in the sun (from the UV (ultra violet) light). The challenge was to make a UV color-changing bead buddy and build a sun shelter for it using material, cardboard,

popsicle sticks, cardboard rolls, and paper plates. We had 16 participants. We talked about UV rays and how we protect ourselves from them (hats, sunglasses, sunscreen, etc.), and kids got to see if their shelters were successful. The color change of the beads is immediate when they are exposed to UV light, so the kids were delighted in seeing that most of their structures worked. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*

The annual Marin City Back to School Rally was held on August 18. Cynthia Green from Marin Housing Authority took the lead on coordinating this event and they provided food. Each year community partners come together to provide free school supplies to Marin City kids and to gear everyone up on a positive note for the new academic year. Both Bayside MLK Academy and Willow Creek Academy (the two schools in the Sausalito Marin City School District) were there. So was the Boys and Girls Club, Marin County Sheriff's Office, Performing Stars of Marin, Marin City Community Services District, Hannah Project and more. The Marin Housing Authority and Marin City Library gave out children's books. The Friends of the Marin City Library gave out pens, pencils, and pencil pouches. Etienne Douglas and Faheem Bassa took the giant Jenga and Connect Four to Rocky Graham Park for the event. They also played music and passed out library materials. Diana Lopez coordinated with First 5 at the State level through Michelle at First 5 Marin to have the First 5 Express there. They brought tote bags with books, toys to encourage parents to #TalkReadSing with their children, and more. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*

Our WebStar Misbah Mamoon will be going to Cal Poly San Luis Obispo in the fall, so we had our Webstars Going Away party, courtesy of the Friends of the Marin City Library. Webstars Chris Do, Faheem Bassa and Misbah Mamoon went. So did one of our former WebStar and now an extra-hire Library Assistant I staff member Kayla Thompson. Faheem is also now an extra-hire Library Assistant I! Julie Magnus, Etienne Douglas, Becky Tuttle, and Kevin Luu also went to the dinner. Diana was unable to attend due to a previous MAPE commitment. *(Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*

Fairfax (Margaret Miles)

August has been a slower month for us program-wise, although we've continued with weekly Mother Goose on the Loose, Storytime, Lego Club, and the monthly Friends of the Library Book Club. *(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together) (Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning)*

The Fabric and Fiber Makers Club, started by Janet Hughes, Library Asst. I, is proving very popular. Attendees on August 17 brought quilts they were working on, dresses made of antique tablecloths, knitting and sewing projects, and shared their ideas with each other. One woman commented to Janet, "I have been waiting my whole life for this kind of program!" *(Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning)*

On August 19, Fairfax Library celebrated the end of Summer Challenge with a grand party. Iris Meinolf, Children's Librarian, did an outstanding job coordinating the multiple events involved. Children were able to tie-dye a shirt, learn back-strap weaving, play a number of large wooden games, eat healthy snacks, and listen to live music from Mr. Jim. Iris obtained a \$100 donation from Good Earth Natural Foods to provide the snacks, and several staff and parents assisted with the program. The program was

held on the slope behind the library, allowing us to expand library services outside our walls. Weather was perfect, the giant oaks provided shade, and the 70 or so folks who participated during the program had a wonderful creative time. One mother who returned to the library on Monday commented what a great community-building event it was. *(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together)*



Angela Wawryzek, Librarian I, crafted a striking display for August, “Savor Summer Reading.” Books have been flying off the shelf. *(Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning)*



John Elison, Library Asst. II, was able to upload episodes of Marin Poets Live!, the cable tv program hosted by Neshama Franklin, Library Asst. I, to the MCFL Youtube channel. This archive now features interviews with over 50 local poets including our Marin Poet Laureate Rebecca Foust. The archive can be reached by going to www.marinlibrary.org/poets/ (Goal 3: Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy)

Novato and South Novato (Janet Doerge)



August 5, nearly 30 people attended a reading by contributors to the travel anthology Wandering in Andalusia. The crowd reacted enthusiastically to the stories about southern Spain, ate some good food, and also bought a few books to help support the Friends. "That was really great - I had such a good time!" a happy patron remarked after the program. (Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)

Staff on Sunday August 6 received an anonymous thank you card addressed to "All who work at Novato Library." The patron expressed their thanks in this way: "The library is one of my favorite places in town, and I thank all of you for making it the welcoming, active, useful place that it is. Thank you, A grateful resident of Novato & Library user." (Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)

On August 7, one of our regular patrons was positively gushing about the Bibliocommons catalog. It is not always easy for our older patrons to adapt to new systems but this seems to have won over at least one user! (Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)

Spanish Language Book Club/ Club de Lectura en Español met at Novato Library on August 9 and discussed Victor Villaseñor's memoir *Burro genio*. Our Spanish Language Book Club meets once a month, on the 2nd Wednesday of each month. *(Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*



The solar eclipse happened on August 21! Over 300 people lined up (pictured here) to score pairs of the glasses procured for the event planned at the Novato Library. After weeks of persistent and insistent calls and questions as to whether the library had eclipse glasses, Novato was blanketed in fog and we didn't see a thing. But we provided snacks, coffee, juice, and water in addition to the viewing glasses (while supplies lasted).

But the crowds stayed and a photo of our event even made the front page of the Novato Advance: "Dozens of locals gathered at the Novato Library in hopes of viewing the eclipse on Monday. Many eclipse watchers created home-made solar viewers."

In addition to the outside activity, Library Assistant II Anna Jonsson set up the Firesign to stream the



event and we also streamed it in the community room. One attendee said to Librarian Amanda Tomlin, who coordinated the event, that they were planning on making a large donation to the friends. *(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 2: Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.) (Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*



Staff received some funny questions about this program: Q: Why are you having the eclipse program in the morning? Q: Why are you having this program when the kids are in school? Q: Are you having the eclipse inside or outside? Q: Do you have eclipse glasses for my dog? Q: When are you bringing the sun out?

At the same time as the eclipse on August 21, and equally impressive, Librarian II Carla Avitabile gave a presentation to 100 9th graders at Novato High. The presentation covered remote services most

relevant to students. *(Goal 2: Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*

Overheard from Russian and Portuguese parents in the Novato Children's Room: "Don't worry, you'll eventually find others here at the library who speak your language!" *(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*

This month Carol Sweig completed teaching her memoir classes. We are grateful to Carol for traveling from West Marin to Novato to teach her class, and we have many grateful patrons too! Several enjoyed the experience so much that they have decided to continue to meet outside the library, providing support to each other with their writing. *(Goal 4: Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning.)*

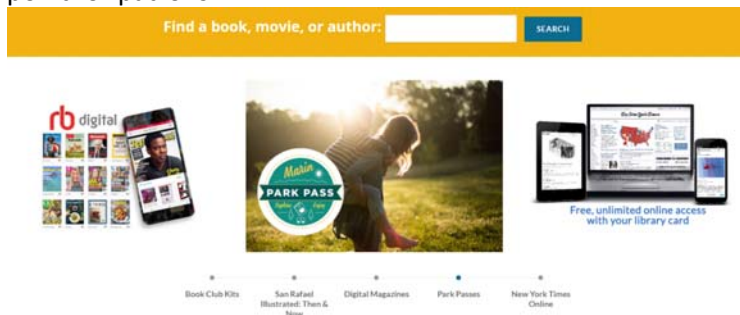
Children's Librarian II Sara Hathaway is busily compiling the statistics for our Summer Reading Challenge at Novato and South Novato Libraries. Engagement was much higher this summer than previous summers, with 1992 active participants reading 1,097,800 total minutes at Novato Library and 218,900 at South Novato for a grand total of 1,316,700 minutes! Participants really went after the challenge goals set for them this summer. We had a record number of children meet the Gold Medal Challenge (900 minutes) to attend the Super-Secret Party in July (over 190 people attended). 76 kids completed the Super Readers Challenge (3000 minutes) to attend a special pizza party—well above the 19 who attended in 2016. Amazing! *(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

E- Services & Technical Services (Jen Robinson) In staffing news, Keith Waye was hired to replace Gail Grant in the capacity of Media Technician (aka Graphic Designer). In the new organizational structure, Marketing falls under Jen's purview. Keith owns his own graphic design business and works at Marin City and Novato Libraries as a Library Assistant.

E-Services

Changes to the website included:

- **New carousel** on front page, featuring new services, alerts, etc. – offers a quick and visual access point for patrons



- **Branch News/Highlights** area added to Branch Pages so branches can create blog posts specific to their locations
- Expanded "Work for the Library" page to include video for "Happy" from All Staff Day 2016

- “About Us” page updated: removed Scott Bauer from page, rearranged a bit, and added photo of MCFL Staff @ National Library Legislation Day
- Removed Summer Learning Program pages and mentions; removed Explora database links at request of Teen Librarians
- Added **Spanish Blog section** to Spanish Page – these are posts written in Spanish by staff

Blog en español



Permisos De Parque



Reseña - Libro Bilingüe Para Niños - When A Bully Is President/Cuando El Presidente Es Un Buli



Reseña - Una Buena Chica

- In an effort to make our site easier for patrons to understand and use, we changed instances of library “jargon” on the site. All instances of “PIN” were changed to “password” and “barcode” was changed to the more accurate “Library Card Number”

(Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy)

Selected Patron Feedback:

“This is a great, user-friendly website. I find everything I need. It is a pleasure to use.” – Sharon F.

(Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy)

A video streaming service called Kanopy was the focus of a recent New York Times article “How to Stream Thousands of Free Movies Using Your Library Card”

<https://www.nytimes.com/2017/08/24/watching/kanopy-criterion-collection-library-card.html?mcubz=1>. Kanopy has been around for a couple of years but only served academic libraries

until this spring when they expanded to public libraries. Currently Sausalito and Mill Valley are the only members of MARINet offering Kanopy. There is some overlap in what Hoopla and Kanopy offer and the payment setup is very similar: no platform fee or subscription, but instead we put a big chunk of money into a fund and then we are charged for each video our patrons access. There wasn’t much interest among staff when Jen posted about this resource earlier this year, but we should probably revisit as we have received some comments from patrons asking if we were going to get this resource. *(Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy; Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning)*

Jen Robinson created a space on the Intranet for a collection of over 250 copyright-free images that staff can use for library promotion: flyers, website, social media, bookmarks, etc. Jen sought out photos of diverse people of different ages, skin colors, and body types to best reflect our community. *(Equity Initiative)*



Examples of new images in repository

Technical Services

Jen and Vanessa have started weekly 1-on-1 meetings to keep abreast of TEC business and staffing issues. Jen is also meeting with Vanessa, Mildred, and Suella in the next weeks to get familiar with their day to day tasks, projects, and any challenges.

Suella, Mildred, Clara and Scott gave a presentation on Collection Management to the Library Commission on 8/9. They offered details about the budget, selection, patron-driven purchases, floating, collections in other languages and de-selection. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together; Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression; Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy; Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning)*

The Acquisitions staff made some significant changes as we transitioned into the new fiscal year. Everyone shifted some job duties to even out the workload and increase cross training across the team. Jessica Anisman began training on ordering and receiving leased books. With the retirement of our copy cataloger, Kathy Grandemange, Sharon Ho filled in the gap by letting go of some ordering duties and began training in copy cataloging. By the end of the month Mildred Arencibia fully trained her in copy cataloging all juvenile and teen books, except for easy readers, and adult books that are additions from records already cataloged by city libraries in our shared catalog. Nathan Kelly took on some new order duties and started training in ordering DVDs, music CDs, and Russian books. Giao Nguyen started training on preparing and submitting the annual renewal of our 350+ periodical subscriptions. We are a close-knit team and everyone was able to step up and cover the Distribution Center duties while Jessica took a much-deserved vacation. Vanessa Walden supported all the staff during this transition with updating procedures and providing training on all the various tasks.

Technical Services staff continue to be seen at our branches doing outreach services and also perform these services from behind the scenes. Sharon was at the Novato Space Festival promoting STEAM activities and supporting space exploration. Nathan continues his inter-library loan duties behind the scenes, filling requests from libraries throughout California and the country, managing the Link+ requests and incoming items for our patrons, and also filling in for MARINET staff to sort and prepare the Link+ delivery. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together; Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning)*

The efficiency audit in the Technical Services department continues to impact our work. The Distribution Center process for filling holds has been improved and Jessica continues to reduce the time it takes to fill patron holds while patrons will see their holds filled from the Distribution Center sooner. She also managed sending discarded books to Thrift Books, which benefits the Friends of the Library, and the un-sellable books to the recycling center in Sacramento. The Distribution Center also houses the out-of-season children's holiday books and Jessica has been busy preparing the next big delivery of

Halloween, Thanksgiving and other fall holiday books to be delivered to the branches. Getting these items out well ahead of the actual holiday contributes to our goal of being the preferred place for children and families. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together)*

Vanessa Walden continues to implement the system-wide collection management project. She worked with a high school intern to review the collections at Marin City and Corte Madera libraries for missing and bad condition items. She also mapped the entire Marin City collection to calculate capacity size. She worked closely with librarian Diana Lopez to right-size the collections and consult together on shifting some of the collections to better serve our patrons. All of this work at Marin City is the pilot phase of the project to improve the browsing experience, better manage our floating collections, and support adults and youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together; Goal 2 - Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression; Goal 4 - Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning)*

West Marin (Bonny White)

MCFL's FLAGship program participated in the San Rafael celebration of *National Night Out* on August 1, taking advantage of this great opportunity to make strong ties with others serving the community and spreading the word about the services we offer to children and families. This event was full of laughter, fun games, delicious food, books, and friendship. Eighty-four children and forty-four adults visited the FLAGship where we gave away 91 books to help families build their home libraries and to encourage reading with their children at home. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*



Mary Pounder of Wildcare paid visits to standing-room-only crowds at the Inverness and Bolinas Libraries during the first two weeks of August. More than 100 people came out to visit with the critters in Bolinas on August 3 and another 53 came to Inverness on August 9. Every year, we are reminded of the central role that wildlife plays in the lives of West Marin children and families. They know a lot about the natural world, and they are always ready and excited to learn more. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*



The same fascination with living creatures motivated huge crowds to attend our Insect Discovery Lab presentations at Point Reyes and Stinson Beach on August 11. Sixty-five children came out to learn about insects in Point Reyes and another 31 in Stinson Beach. The Stinson Beach crowd was actually too big for the Charlotte Jones room, so we moved outside to the patio where children interacted with Walking Sticks, Millipedes, and Darkling Beetles. Our nature educator, Jonathan, was absolutely wonderful; funny and unafraid about letting our children carefully handle and learn to love some very interesting and unusual creatures. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*



On August 9 and 10, Kerry, Bonny, and Victor Avalos held interviews to fill an LAI position at the Stinson Beach Library. The successful applicant was MCFL's Aaron Fong who also works at Technical Services, MARINet, South Novato, and throughout the system as an LAI. West Marin is very much looking forward to welcoming Aaron when he starts his new job on August 28.

Our Reading on the Ranches program continued into mid-August, with culminating fiestas on August 14 and 16. We were a little worried about the program this year because responses to our March surveys were off by about 30%. We hear this trend from other service providers in West Marin; families are nervous about receiving services from government entities right now. Coordinator Jo Ann Kempf dealt with this by just showing up at some of the sites where families had requested services in the past, and this approach worked. The Reading on the Ranches Team found that families were very eager to participate, often walking long distances to meet Jo Ann's car. This year, we served 79 people at ranches everywhere from Chilen Valley to Inverness who checked out more than 500 books. For reading incentives, the kind people at *Brainfuse* provided string backpacks, wooden yoyos, and balsa wood airplanes. Our Literacy program also donated bilingual toddler books to families with very young children. End-of-program Fiestas with homemade pozole, brownies, strawberries and lemonade were a big hit with everyone. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*



On August 16, the Point Reyes Library welcomed Wildcat Campers from West Marin School for a morning of catalog instruction, virtual reality, and eclipse-centered crafts. Jennifer Livingston organized this event beautifully, separating the 35 students into three groups so they could move from one activity to the next. Students had a great time applauding our West Marin staff as they left the building. Many of these children had been participating in the summer challenge, either on the ranches or at our physical library branches. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 3 – Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.)*



West Marinners were very excited about the solar eclipse that occurred on August 21. The Point Reyes Library planned an event and received eclipse glasses in advance and we were also able to collect enough glasses for the other two branches that were open Monday morning, Bolinas and Stinson Beach, to have several pairs. On the big day, the fog was very thick, making viewing from our library branches impossible but in typical West Marin style, the 85 people who showed up had a wonderful time anyway. Annemarie did story time for the preschool crowd while families made solar ovens and solar flipbooks. At the end of the event, people said they really enjoyed celebrating the eclipse with their community, even though nobody really got to see it. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 4 – Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning, particularly with regard to equity issues.)*



Back to School night at West Marin School was the evening of Thursday, August 24, and Jennifer Livingston of the Point Reyes Library was there with books to check out and flyers about upcoming events. It always feels like a fitting end to the summer season when the Library is there to welcome

children back to school. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 2 –Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*



National Park Service Ranger Carlo Arreglo who works at the Bear Valley Visitors Center, asked Bonny to be a judge at this year's Drakes Beach Sand Castle Contest on Sunday August 27. It was particularly fun judging the children's entries – there were clearly some future sculptors in the crowd. The overall winning sand sculptures this year included a beautifully executed "Ace of Spaces," and a dragon, reminiscent of Game of Thrones. This is just one part of an ongoing and vibrant partnership between the National Park Service and the West Marin Libraries. Last year, Ranger Arreglo spoke at a birding event at the Point Reyes Library. Rangers and former rangers also serve on our boards like the Tomales Bay Library Association and the Marin County Library Commission. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.) (Goal 2 –Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.) (Goal 4 – Support adults through life stages with opportunities for self-development and independent learning, particularly with regard to equity issues.)*



August 28 was a very special day at Stinson Beach where we welcomed Aaron Fong for his very first day! We're so excited that he has joined our West Marin team. Since Kerry was on vacation, Stinson Beach extra-hire, Nan Torrey and Bonny were on hand to get him started. He was also greeted by many of Stinson Beach's regular patrons throughout the morning.



Library Director Activities

- Met with Communication Team for plan to address Employee Voice Survey results 8/10/17
- Planned and attended going away parties for Deputy Director Scott Bauer 8/11/17 (his last day)
- Friends of the Library meeting 8/12/17
- Worked with Marin History Museum for a request to MarinSpace for equipment to digitize collections.
- Vacation August 17-25 (saw eclipse in location of totality in Idaho)
- Creating analysis, strategy and plans for high level staffing vacancies (Deputy Director, Administrative Services Officer, Administrative Analyst III (HR) and Library Technical Services Manager.