



BEN OCÓN | CITY LIBRARIAN

READ TO A DOG!

“PAWS FOR TALES” PROGRAM MAKES CHILDREN BETTER READERS

One of the more successful programs introduced at the San Mateo Public Library this year is the popular read-to-a-dog program, or better known as “Paws for Tales.” The program is a wonderful collaboration involving the Library and the Peninsula Humane Society. The principal goal of the program is to help children become better readers using an innovative approach—the children read aloud to therapy dogs trained to be attentive listeners. The program has successfully helped children who once struggled with reading blossom into good readers when matched with one of the therapy dogs.

“The program teaches compassion for animals and that reading is fun,” said Margaret Glomb, Children’s Librarian who oversees the program at the Main Library. “For children struggling with reading, a dog can make a big difference.”

Some of the success stories include the story of one parent whose son would not read. She was amazed to see him excitedly read several books to “Kubby,” one of the therapy dogs. On another occasion, Library staff were touched to see an adult who wanted to practice her English, her second language, thrilled to find out she could read to a dog here at the San Mateo Public Library!

The Library’s Paws for Tales program was the first in San Mateo County and has been a tremendous success in such a short period of time. It is not uncommon to see children patiently waiting in line sometimes up to thirty minutes for a turn to read to one of the dogs. The program is now replicated at two Redwood City Libraries and two San Mateo County Libraries. The program has also received media attention from Radio Disney and Pets Around the Bay.

Paws for Tales will soon get international notoriety. The program was recently filmed by former Library volunteer Savita Patel who now works for Voice of America’s Hindi service. The segment will go on air on the largest and most watched news channel (Aajtak) in India. The channel is available on Dish Network in the U.S.

To anyone who observes the participants, it is apparent that the children are focused on reading and they do not seem to notice their surroundings with the exception of their book and their dog.

A nice feature of the program is the dogs’ seemingly natural multilingual skills. They seem to enjoy a good story in whatever language as exemplified by the children who choose to read stories to them in Spanish and Chinese! Visit the Library’s website for times and locations of the Paws for Tales read to a dog programs, www.smplibrary.org. It’s one of the many exciting programs we offer at the San Mateo Public Library. 📖



Christopher An reading to Kubby

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LIBRARIES COUNT!

San Mateo Libraries by the Numbers

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These data are a testament to the new Library and branch renovations. Thanks to all of you for making it happen!

DID YOU KNOW...?

- The Library had **743,578** visitors last year, which averages more than 2000 per day!
- In the second year that the new Main Library was open, the number of people using the Library was nearly **double** the number who used the old Library.
- **65%** of San Mateo and Hillsborough residents have current library cards; this represents an impressive total of **65,561** card holders!
- **34,394** people attended programs at the Library last year.
- There were **236,374** log-ins on the Main Library’s computers — nearly a fourfold increase compared to usage at the old Library.
- The Library staff answered **68,731** questions.

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SAN MATEO PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION

LibraryLink is a semi-annual publication of the San Mateo Public Library Foundation, which is solely responsible for the content.

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All questions or comments should be directed to 650.522.7860.

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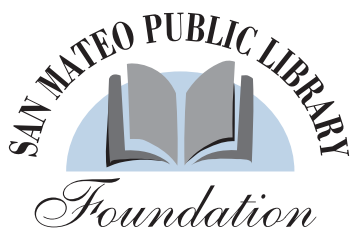
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PHOTO: Crystal Young



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serving the communities of San Mateo & Hillsborough

Fall 2008 / Winter 2009

THERE'S GOLD IN OUR GREEN BUILDING SAN MATEO MAIN LIBRARY EARNS PRESTIGIOUS LEED AWARD

The U.S. Green Building Council recently awarded the San Mateo Main Library its prestigious Gold Certification for its Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design (LEED). The award is given to the nation's greenest, most energy efficient, and high performing buildings.

"The San Mateo Main Library is to be commended for achieving LEED Gold Certification," said Rick Fedrizzi, President, CEO and Founding Chair of the U.S. Green Building Council. "This facility is one that both the community and its customers can be proud of. The Main Library will be a showcase for high-performance, energy-efficient, healthy public buildings and an inspiration for others."



City Librarian Ben Ocon with the LEED Award

PHOTO: NICOLE DINAS

THE LIBRARY SETS THE GREEN STANDARD

- Achieving energy efficiencies by maximizing the use of natural light, heat collectors on the roof, high efficiency fans and underfloor fresh air supply, and low emissivity glazing on windows.
- Achieving water conservation through water-efficient landscaping and low flow, water conserving plumbing fixtures.
- Contributing to the preservation of the environment through the use of recycled materials in the steel, ceiling tiles, and carpet backing; the purchase of wood products from certified, sustainably-managed forests; the use of environmentally friendly paints; and discontinuing the use of plastic bags at checkout.
- Supporting alternatives to gas with multiple bicycle racks and plug in rechargers for electric cars.

In response to strong community views, EHDD Architecture of San Francisco designed the San Mateo Main Library as a "green" facility. The Library's contractor, Charles Pankow Builders, recycled 98% of the old library building's materials when it was deconstructed, used recycled and sustainable building materials, and diverted more than 95% of the construction debris from the landfill into reusable materials.

The LEED Gold Certification is also a testimonial to many of the Library Foundation's donors who believed in the "green plans" and helped by providing funding for the new Main Library.

As part of its commitment to sustainability, the Library has created a Going Green Information Center that, in addition to providing information about the Library's green features, educates the Library's many users about environmental measures that can be practiced at home, at work, and in the community. You can visit the Center on the Mezzanine level of the Library.

The new Main Library has achieved several awards in addition to LEED of which we can all be proud, including "Savings by Design" recognition from Pacific Gas and Electric, Green Business certification from the City and County of San Mateo, Sustainable San Mateo County's Green Building Award 2007, the San Mateo Area Chamber of Commerce's Green Award 2008, the Best Community Impact Award 2007 from the San Francisco Business Times, and the Green Building and Civic Building Awards from McGraw-Hill Construction. 📖

ON BOARD FROM TISH BUSSELLE, PRESIDENT OF THE BOARD

Since January 1, 2008 the San Mateo Public Library Foundation has made \$644,000 in gifts to the Library and the City of San Mateo.

What made this possible? You and the hundreds of donors like you who believe in the importance of libraries in the 21st century and the variety of services and programs that they offer. Thank you!

How did these gifts make a difference? The Foundation was able to reduce its Capital Campaign debt to the City of San Mateo for the construction of the new Library and renovation of the branches. We have only \$450,000 remaining to be raised.

Equally importantly, these gifts supported the specialized librarian for the Genentech Foundation Biotechnology Center in the Library; additions to the Library's collections of books, CDs and DVDs, journals and periodicals beyond what the City is able to budget; support for Project Read's important literacy tutoring programs for adults; special children's programming including the Summer Reading Program; a variety of cultural programs hosted by the Library's Iranian-American, African-American, Asian-American, and Latino Committees; and special outreach activities featuring authors, exhibits and films. All together, these gifts resulted in our Library being a true community living room serving over 700,000 visitors annually.

Certainly our economic challenges are great right now, but I see how our Library's services are helping our own residents. Computer usage has increased; there are more people seeking information in the Business Resource Center. The Library's newspapers are being read by more people—whether looking for the latest news or jobs or simply because they can no longer afford a newspaper subscription. More people are checking out the DVD collection perhaps wanting to save the costs of DVD rentals.

One doesn't often think of a library as a safety net or a place of solace and compassion but, for many, it is. And, for all of us, it is a place to rest, to travel to another world, or to relieve the stresses of our daily lives.

HOW CAN YOU HELP? If you've made a donation in the past, we thank you and hope that you'll consider making an additional gift to the Foundation before the end of the year. If you haven't yet made a donation, consider sending a gift in the enclosed envelope, or by calling 650.522.7860. Your support of the Library through the San Mateo Public Library Foundation means so much to so many throughout our communities and the surrounding area. 📖

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LIBRARIES COUNT

The Foundation Celebrates the

Excitement, humility, and passion characterized the remarks of the 2008 Inductees into the Library Foundation's Wall of Fame in October. Joined by scores of family and friends, each honoree was introduced by the Honorable Jerry Hill, member of the San Mateo County Board of Supervisors. The honorees were also presented with commendations from Mayor of San Mateo Carole Groom, Mayor of Hillsborough Kitty Mullooly and Supervisor Hill.

THIS YEAR'S WALL OF FAME HONOREES ARE:



DAVE BENNETT for **Business and Entrepreneurship**: Co-Founder of Mollie Stone's Markets, Mr. Bennett's business philosophy since opening his first market in 1985 is superior customer service, business excellence and giving back to the community. Mollie Stone's Markets are recognized for many firsts: the first Bay Area market to stop selling tobacco products and the first to provide in-store child-care for shoppers.

C.H.O.I.C.E.S, a drug information and non-profit referral agency. He has been a longtime teacher and mentor to many and has established an Educational Endowment to award scholarships to encourage youth to attend college. His impact goes beyond our local communities with his radio ministry, which is broadcast six days a week.



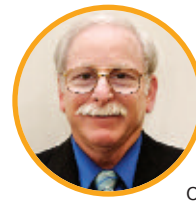
EVELYN TAYLOR for **Education**: A lifelong educator in the San Mateo area, Ms. Taylor began as a classroom teacher and was later appointed the first African-American female principal in the San Mateo-Foster City School District. She believes that given the right tools, every child can be successful academically, and she has shared that belief and her passion for education with staff, students, parents, and community providers. She has led many significant educational initiatives promoting success for low achievers and low-income students.



ROBERT CAUGHLAN for **Science and the Environment**: Co-founder of Friends of the River, Mr. Caughlan is active professionally and personally in nonprofit and government agencies focusing on environmental issues. He was a member of the panel that authored the Global 2000 Report to the President. His passion for the ocean is evidenced by his surfing hobby and following Jacques Cousteau's advice to him, "...don't follow gurus like me. Go out and do it yourself."



ALBERT GUIBARA for the **Arts**: Mr. Guibara is a world-renowned sculptor whose work includes large fountains and individual and group pieces gracing public and corporate areas, as well as private homes. His work can be seen throughout San Mateo, including Leon the Giraffe in Central Park, the Buffalo on 31st Avenue, a fountain on El Camino, and Mr. Toad's House at Mills Hospital.



GEORGE TRUBOW for **Athletics**: As a PE instructor and coach of volleyball, basketball, soccer, track and cross-country, Mr. Trubow goes beyond the call of duty to ensure that all students have an opportunity to participate on a sports team. He has coached thousands of students during his 35-year tenure at Borel Middle School where he teaches science and math. He's a model of tenacity, commitment and positive thinking for students and parents alike.



DR. SANG-ICK CHANG for **Health Services**: Chief Executive Officer of the San Mateo Medical Center, Dr. Chang has achieved much in his career in the areas of improved health services and providing for human dignity. He pioneered local efforts to reduce the time it takes for a patient to receive care and has raised millions of dollars for the Center to address the health needs of the less fortunate in our community. In addition to his leadership at the San Mateo Medical Center, he can also be found treating patients at the Daly City Clinic.



SUE LEMPERT for **Government Service**: Ms. Lempert has provided 35 years of leadership and service to the San Mateo community. She served as a member of the Boards of Trustees of the San Mateo-Foster City Elementary School District and the San Mateo Union High School District, and was elected to the San Mateo City Council, serving twice as Mayor during her 12 years on the Council. Sue continues to serve on the Metropolitan Transportation Commission and shares her knowledge and perspectives on local and regional government issues as a sought after teacher at the College of San Mateo and a weekly columnist for a local paper.



MARTIN YAN for **Entertainment and Cuisine**: A highly acclaimed professional chef who pioneered one of the first cooking shows on television, "Yan Can Cook." Mr. Yan is a prolific author of Chinese cookbooks. He continues sharing his skills and enthusiasm for the culinary arts as an instructor, tour leader and restaurateur, infusing what he does with wit, cultural insights and incredible knife wielding skills. His contributions to the understanding of Chinese cuisine and all of its regional specialties have changed what Americans and others know about Chinese food and culture.



DR. LARRY WAYNE ELLIS for **Spiritual and Religious Communities**: Dr. Ellis, Pastor of Pilgrim Baptist Church, has enriched the spiritual and daily lives of thousands of individuals through his religious work. He is the founder of



ORTENSIA LOPEZ for **Community Service**: Ms Lopez has worked in the non-profit sector for over 25 years as a leader in creating coalitions, collaborations and partnerships, which have resulted in innovative initiatives that have ensured participation for communities of color. She is a founding member and current Executive Director of El Concilio of San Mateo County and serves on a variety of boards and committees.



YOUR SUPPORT IS IMPORTANT.

BY MAKING A GIFT TO THE SAN MATEO PUBLIC LIBRARY FOUNDATION, YOU WILL HELP THE FOUNDATION:

- COMPLETE ITS CAPITAL CAMPAIGN GOAL IN SUPPORT OF THE NEW LIBRARY AND THE RENOVATION OF THE BRANCHES;
- PROVIDE ONGOING SUPPORT FOR EXPANDING THE LIBRARY'S COLLECTIONS OF BOOKS, DVDs, NEWSPAPERS, MAGAZINES AND JOURNALS, AND OTHER RESOURCES;
- SUPPORT THE POSITION OF THE BIOTECH LIBRARIAN WHICH CONNECTS PROFESSIONALS AND MEMBERS OF THE COMMUNITY WITH PREVIOUS AND NEW DEVELOPMENTS IN THE BIOTECH INDUSTRY AND ITS IMPACT ON THE HEALTH AND WELL BEING OF MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY;
- CONTINUE TO PROVIDE LITERACY TUTORING SERVICES TO OUR COMMUNITY THROUGH PROJECT READ;
- PROVIDE IMPORTANT OUTREACH SERVICES TO SERVE THE YOUNGEST MEMBERS OF OUR COMMUNITY; AND
- SUPPORT EXPANDED PROGRAMMING FOR ALL INCLUDING CULTURAL AND ETHNICALLY-BASED PROGRAMS.

Book Sale Success
The Friends of the Library's book sale in September raised over \$8,000 to help the San Mateo Public Library Foundation support the Library's acquisition of new books and media resources for the Library. The Foundation salutes the Friends' dedicated volunteers who sort and sell the many books that are donated daily and book donors. 📖

2008 Wall of Fame Honorees

The 2008 Inductees into the Wall of Fame were nominated by local residents and judged by an independent group of judges from Santa Clara County. To be nominated, a person must have lived or worked in San Mateo or Hillsborough and have distinguished himself or herself through individual accomplishments locally, nationally or internationally.

The induction ceremony also included an announcement of Historical Names being added to the Wall of Fame: Abby Parrott who fed thousands of homeless nightly on her estate in San Mateo and Hillsborough; Pansy Jewett Abbott, the first woman Superintendent of Schools in San Mateo

County in the mid 20th century; William Patrick Kyne whose love of horses and horse racing led to the founding of Bay Meadows; the Levy Brothers who were the first merchandisers in San Mateo and surrounding communities and inaugurated the stagecoach route between San Mateo and Half Moon Bay; and Sam Shung Leong who founded Ah Sam's, a family business and longtime institution in San Mateo.

Please join the Foundation in congratulating these honorees. Lifemark, the major sponsor of the celebration, has underwritten a special commemorative book about their accomplishments. The book

is a part of the permanent Wall of Fame which is located on the second floor of the San Mateo Main Library.

In addition to Lifemark, other sponsors who supported the celebration were The San Mateo Daily Journal, Essence Printing, Tiny Prints, and the Casey and Busselle families. Food and drink hosts included AcquaPazza Ristorante, Alex's Café at the Library, Joy Luck Place, Dream Dinners, Mfinity Wines of the Livermore Valley, and Maker's Mark Handmade Bourbon. The Foundation also wishes to thank Sara Wood of Sugarsnap Photography for her photography services. 📖



San Mateo Public Library Foundation
WALL OF FAME

Capital Campaign Nears the Finish Line

THANKS TO THE GENEROUS SUPPORT of individuals, businesses and foundations, the Foundation's commitment to the City of San Mateo to raise private funding for the new Main Library and branch renovations is nearly complete. The Foundation has only \$450,000 left to raise. Major donors in 2008 include Bay Meadows Land Company, the Town of Hillsborough, Timothy Mills, and Gary Sprague and Michele Freed. In addition, there have been several new donors to the Foundation's Stacks Campaign.

The Foundation's major goal for this year is to complete the Capital Campaign and meet its commitment to the City, which provided a bridge loan so that the Main Library could proceed with the new construction and renovate the branches on schedule.

There are a number of naming opportunities in the Library still available for donors at the \$10,000 level and above. For information about these naming opportunities, which are truly legacies for future Library users, please contact the Foundation at 650.522.7860. Donors at any level over \$1,000 will be recognized on the Donor Wall outside the main entrance to the Library, which will be permanently installed by Summer 2009 with the names of new donors since June 2006 added. 📖

\$10 million goal

\$9.450 million raised/committed



**NAMING OPPORTUNITIES STILL AVAILABLE.
 HELP US REACH OUR GOAL!**

Thank You to Our 2008 Generous Donors

We are grateful for new pledges, gifts, and pledge payments received January 1, 2008 - October 28, 2008.

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We appreciate your help and understanding.