



March 2024 Newsletter



"Let's go downtown," Dad said. "By the public library. You never know what wild and crazy things might be happening at the library." Marion Jensen, *Almost Super*

Not so crazy, but some super fun things to do are happening in our town over the next few weeks.

★ Downtown by the city library will be the place to be on Saturday, April 27, and your membership, book purchases, and other contributions have made much of it possible! It's **Kids Fest 2024**, *El Dia de Los Ninos*, a day of literary adventure, community resource fairs, and just plain fun for all the family. See more details inside for attendees and ways you can help make it a success. Be sure to look for the Kona Ice truck! They are generously donating 10% of their proceeds to the Moorpark Friends of the Library, benefiting programs at the library.

Contact Christine Conwell at conwell@moorparklibrary.org or 805-517-6371 for more details and to get involved.

★ On Saturday, May 4, enjoy the Moorpark Earth Festival and Community Yard Sale at the Arroyo Vista Park. Visit the Library booth and ours next to it for some fun book "crafty" adventures and bargain children's books.

★ On Saturday, May 11, the Moorpark Apricot Festival will explode in color and sound on High Street. The Library and the Friends of the Library will be there to add to the fun!

★ All of these events offer you, our Friends, an opportunity to join your fellow members in demonstrating our enthusiasm for our library and all it offers to the community. A couple of hours from several people will make all the difference in making sure that our message is heard!

Contact Rosalie Barili at rosaladyone@gmail.com or 805-990-5751 for more details and to get involved in the May 4 and 11 events.

★ Last but most importantly, please make sure you cast your ballot for the election of the 2024-2026 slate of officers for the MFOTL Board of Directors Executive Committee (President, Vice President, and Secretary—a Treasurer is appointed after the election). You have your ballot; please note the deadline has been extended to April 26. Contact Dona Pugh at donadpugh@sbcglobal.com with any questions. Please add your support to the commitment of our board to continue the work of the Friends in support of our vital and joy-filled library!

Thank you,
Rosalie Barili
President, Moorpark Friends of the Library

Updates from “Biggest Little Bookstore”

Moorpark’s “Biggest Little Bookstore” is bursting with all types of wonderful books and more! On the back wall, we have different types of sheet music and music books where you can learn to play, or advance your talent. There are books full of songs to play on a guitar, piano, and even an ukulele. Everything from beginners to more advanced music, and many written by some recognizable names.



People are constantly asking when our next book sale will be. Do we have good news for everyone! There is a book sale scheduled for Friday morning, May 3 on the porch of the library, featuring nonfiction and adult fiction. And to take out the guessing for everyone, look for future Porch Sales to “Pop Up” on the first Friday of every month: June 7, July 5, August 2, September 6, October 4, November 1, and we will finish 2024 with a Porch Sale on December 6. Porch Sales run for one week, but for the best selection plan to get there early.

And lastly, as of the writing of this newsletter we are not able to accept donations of books, but look forward to your donations of gently used books in the near future. Just as a reminder, we do not accept the following: encyclopedias, magazines, “Dummies” books, sets of Time/Life or Readers Digest, any book that is in poor condition (water damage, dirty, dog chewed, torn, pages falling out, scribbled in, or puzzle books with the answers filled in), in other words, a book you would not want to buy. And we especially do not accept porn.

Stop by our booth at the Earth Day Festival on Saturday May 4, and learn about The Life Cycle of a Donated Book.

~Diana Fowler

MFOTL Executive Committee Elections

Your ballot to vote for the 2024-2026 MFOTL President, Vice President, and Secretary should be in your e-mail inbox now. All Moorpark Friends of the Library members in good standing are eligible to vote for these MFOTL officers. If you have not received your ballot email, please check your junk folder, or contact the committee at mfotlibrary@gmail.com

The Nominating Committee, which consists of Dona Pugh and Eleanor Brazal-Villanueva, has announced the slate of candidates. You can vote by replying to the ballot e-mailed to you. To be counted, your e-mail must have been received at mfotlibrary@gmail.com no later than April 26, 2024.

The Nominating Committee recommended the following individuals who have accepted the nominations for the following offices:

President – Bernadette McDowell
Vice President – Rosalie Barili
Secretary – Christine White

~Dona Pugh



MFOTL Fundraising Successes!

The Moorpark Friends of the Library hosted their second annual “Night of International Dance & Culture” fundraiser on March 16 with a spectacular showcase of dance groups from around the world. The event was a vibrant celebration of cultural diversity, bringing together community members to enjoy an evening of music, movement, and camaraderie.

The night kicked off with the mesmerizing performances of the Ka Hale Hilo Hawaiian dancers, transporting the audience to the islands with their graceful movements and traditional music. Following them were the crowd favorite Bollywood Beyond dancers, led by the talented director Payal Wadhawan, who not only dazzled with their energetic routines but also engaged the audience in learning some hip movements for an authentic Bollywood experience.

Adding a contemporary flair to the lineup, the Megill and Company modern dancers from Moorpark captivated the audience with their innovative choreography and expressive performance. Just in time for Saint Patrick’s Day, the Amelia O’Shaughnessy Irish Dancers took the stage, delighting attendees with their precision and passion for Irish dance.

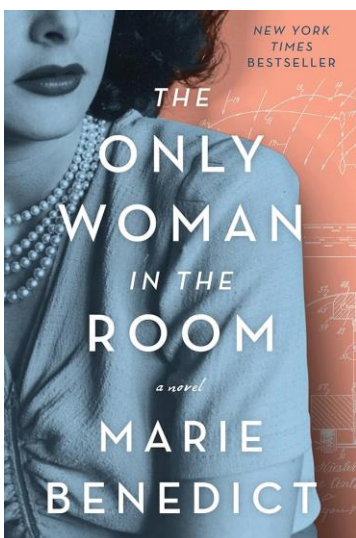
And finally, the Oxnard College Ballet Folklorico Mestizo transported everyone to the vibrant streets of Veracruz, and Sinaloa, Mexico, with their colorful costumes and lively traditional dances, closing the night on a high note.

The event was another resounding success with a full house and enthusiastic applause for each performance. It truly felt like a journey around the world through the universal language of dance.

In addition to the main event, on March 6 the Moorpark Friends of the Library held their first fundraiser with local restaurant *M on High*. The community showed their support in full force, enjoying delicious food and excellent service, all while contributing to a good cause. Owner Danny Margolis’s generosity shone through, with 10% of the proceeds from the evening generously donated to the library fund. A heartfelt thank you to all who attended and supported these events, helping to ensure the continued success and vitality of the Moorpark Library.

~Lori Preciado

What Are You Reading?



The Only Woman in the Room (2019) by Marie Benedict

She possessed a stunning beauty that almost certainly saved her from the rising Nazi Party and led to marriage with an Austrian arms dealer. She also possessed a stunning mind. Underestimated, she overheard the Third Reich’s plans while at her husband’s side, understanding more than anyone would guess.

She devised a plan to flee in disguise from their castle, and the whirlwind escape landed her in Hollywood. She became Hedy Lamarr, screen star. But she kept a secret more shocking than her heritage or her marriage, she was a scientist. And she knew a few secrets about the enemy. She had an idea that might help the country fight the Nazis if anyone would listen to her.

An excellent book that I breezed through in three days. I did not know the story about this famous actress, but every search of her name makes reference to her heroic efforts to help the war effort. I highly recommend this book.

~Teri Glazier

How a Library Changed (or Affected) My Life: Pam Orren

I met Pam a few days ago in the library, where we were each checking out a book (of course), and she enthusiastically said "I just love this library"! So of course I said, "So tell me why." When she told me the following story, I told her that she just had to write it up for our newsletter.

So, come on the rest of you, where's your story?

~Rosalie Barili



I moved to Moorpark in October 2023, and I often report back to my friends in Minnesota that I feel like I have moved to paradise. One of the many reasons is the fantastic library. While the building is older and I know that there are plans for a new one, the staff at the library are so friendly and helpful. In addition, I am amazed at how easy and fast it is to order books. I am a voracious reader, and my friends often recommend books to me. I put them on my hold list, and often they arrive even before I have finished the books I am currently reading.

One example is the book, *James* by Percival Everett. It was published on March 19, 2024, and I ordered it just before that date. I was surprised to be informed that my copy was ready to pick up on March 20th! My friends in Minnesota have informed me that their wait is between nine weeks and four months!

I also love the fact that a few days before the due date, books are automatically renewed unless there are people on the waiting list for them.

When I go to the library, it is always tempting to take out more books than I can read because it is so well stocked. I love that there are always events at the library including events for children and book clubs for all. It is truly a welcoming place. I totally appreciate the inter-library loan system when Moorpark does not own a book, and Kanopy, which enables patrons to stream movies. I have joined the Friends of the Library and encourage everyone to do the same so that Moorpark can continue all the good work.

~Pam B Orren

Volunteers Wanted!

We invite your energy and commitment of time to fulfill our mission of supporting the library and its programs. For a better idea of what we do, and to discover your special interest, you are welcome to attend a board meeting. For further information, contact us at mfotlibrary@gmail.com to select a date from the following upcoming 2024 meeting dates:

May 21
July 16
September 17
November 19



The Dream of a New Library Comes Closer to Reality

With the Planning Commission certifying an environmental impact report and granting a conditional use permit, the dream of a new library moved closer to reality. This permit allows for the development of a 17,272 square-foot library on 2.24 acres that currently house the existing public library and vacant lots. The current library, built in 1980 before the city was incorporated, will be demolished and the new library will occupy the old library site, with its new address designated as 83 High Street.

The proposed library will house sections for early childhood, children, teens, and adults, along with multi-purpose rooms for events. A marketplace for the Moorpark Friends of the Library is also included. Outdoor features include raised porch-like seating, walking paths, landscaping, parking, bike racks and a bus shuttle shop.

Next steps include completion of construction drawings and bid specifications which should happen this fall, with another four months to bid the project and award a contract. The timeline indicates starting construction in 2025.

~Teri Glazier

April and May Library Events!

Children's Programs:

Sunshine Storytime – Wednesdays, 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Reading Buddies – Tuesdays, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Curiosity Club – Saturdays, 11 a.m. – 12 p.m.

Bitty Bilinguals – Saturday, May 4, 10:30 a.m. – 11:15 a.m.

Teen Programs:

Anime Night – Wednesdays, 6 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Manga Meetup (One Punch Man) – Friday, May 17, 4 p.m. – 5 p.m.

Crafty Teens (Flower wreaths) – Saturday, May 18, 2 p.m. – 3 p.m.

Paint Your Feels ([Register here](#)) – Fridays in May, 5:30 p.m. – 7 p.m.

Job & Volunteer Fair – Saturday, April 27, 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

Adult Programs:

Crafty Adults (Ages 16+) – first Thursday of the month, 2 p.m. or 6 p.m.

May 2 – Shaker Keychains, [Register here](#)

Book Club for Adults on Zoom – second Monday of the month, 6:30 p.m.

May 13 – *The Fourteenth of September* by Rita Dragonette

Read It & Eat It – second Saturday of the month, 2 p.m.

May 11 – Thai

Genre Book Club – fourth Thursday of the month, 6 p.m.

April 25 – *Shades of Milk and Honey* by Mary Robinette Kowal (Historical Fantasy)

May 23 – *Mr. Penumbra's 24 Hour Bookstore* by Robin Sloan (Fantasy/Adventure, Urban Fiction)



Moorpark City Library

KIDS FEST 2024

HEROES UNITE

SATURDAY, APRIL 27, 2024, 11AM - 2PM

Join us for a day of literary adventure and community empowerment!

ACTIVITIES:

- **Cartoon Classes with Dave Boatman** (10:30am - 11:30 am)
- **Virtual Author Visit with Dan Gutman** (12:00pm - 12:45pm)
- **Arsenal Comics presents pictures with Spiderman & free comic books!**
- **Heroic Crafts**
- **Touch-a-Truck**
- **Teen Volunteer/Job Fair**
- **Community Resource Fair**
- **Food and Drink for purchase**



Don't miss this opportunity to become a Literary Hero and make a difference in your community!

699 Moorpark Ave. | Moorpark, CA 93021
(805) 517-6370 | moorparklibrary.org

For more details and to get involved, contact
Christine Conwell at 805-517-6371 or
cconwell@moorparklibrary.org



Moorpark Friends of the Library Membership

We are thankful for the "Friendship" of our generous supporters!

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