



June 2025 Newsletter



As summer arrives, we look forward to celebrations like graduations and Father's Day. Why not honor a graduating student or a special dad by donating a personalized paving brick for the north entry walkway of the new Moorpark City Library? It's a meaningful way to commemorate a loved one while supporting your community. Order yours today at: <https://donate.brickmarkers.com/mfotl>. Proceeds will help fund furnishings, fixtures, specialized equipment, and materials for our new library.

This summer, the Moorpark City Library is offering a variety of engaging programs for children, teens, and adults. Visit <https://www.moorparkca.gov/355/Library> for full details and schedules.

As always, programs like these are made possible thanks in part to support from MFOTL. With reductions in federal library funding and potential cuts at the state level due to budget constraints, your support is more important than ever. In our April 2025 newsletter, I shared concerns about two state grants that were at risk. I'm pleased to report that one of them—funding for the *Lunch at the Library* program—was approved for the Moorpark City Library!

Thanks to a partnership with Moorpark Unified School District and a local food bank, the library will offer pop-up services this summer at Flory Elementary School. These include book lending, bilingual storytimes, take-home activity kits, and free books to encourage literacy and family engagement. While the library originally hoped to host the program at two school sites, it will now be held at a single location due to limited funding.

Unfortunately, it appears unlikely that the 2025–2026 cycle of competitive State grants, made possible through the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS), will receive funding. As a result, the Moorpark City Library staff is exploring a scaled-back version of a proposed “Toddler Rave” program, which would have been fully funded in 2026 if the library were awarded a grant.

Now more than ever, libraries and librarians need advocacy and support of community members and organizations like MFOTL. Library programs enrich lives and strengthen communities, and they rely on both public funding and grassroots involvement.

If you're interested in learning more about the challenges facing libraries—and how to make your voice heard—visit the following resources:

<https://www.everylibrary.org/>

<https://www.cla-net.org/>

<https://www.ala.org/advocacy/show-up-for-our-libraries>

MFOTL welcomes new volunteers and supporters! If you'd like to get involved, we'd love to hear from you. There are many ways to share your skills and time—email us at mfotlibrary@gmail.com to learn how you can help.

Warm wishes for a fun-filled summer!
Bernadette McDowell
President, Moorpark Friends of the Library



How Important Are You?

More than you know. More than can be measured.

Nonetheless, you deserve to be reminded of the value you bring to the Moorpark community through your membership, donations, and personal service in support of the Moorpark City Library. So, dear Friends, here are a few reasons why you can take a bow!

Programs & Events Made Possible (or Better) Through MFOTL Support!



Summer Reading Program: Funding for performers, incentives, craft supplies, and giveaways.

Impact: Engages hundreds of children, teens, and families each year; promotes literacy and learning over the summer.



Kids Fest / Día de los Niños: Supplies for crafts like pull-open piñatas, origami, seed planting; performances like Ballet Folklórico and Nathalie Palis, guitarist and singer; and book giveaways.

Impact: Builds cultural awareness, family engagement, and community pride; and is one of the library's biggest outreach events.



Tiny Art Show: Purchase of mini canvases and art supplies.

Impact: Brings together all ages in a low-barrier creative experience, showcases local talent, and builds community connection.



Read It and Eat It (Cookbook Club): Supply some funds and serving tools.

Impact: Fosters cultural exchange and learning, intergenerational conversation, and culinary curiosity.

TEEN VOLUNTEER TRAINING

Teen Volunteer Program: Supplies for volunteer-led programs like LEGO Robotics, Chess Club, D&D, snacks, and incentives.

Impact: The program has doubled teen engagement, helped teens become mentors and leaders, and significantly increased volunteer hours.



Book Giveaways at Outreach Events: Donation labeling, sourcing, and preparing books for community events.

Impact: Places books directly into children's hands at school visits, park programs, and local festivals—promoting literacy outside the library walls.



The “Biggest Little Bookstore”: Stocked entirely by book donations from the community and managed by a dedicated volunteer staff.

Impact: Provides an inexpensive source of quality books and other materials for all ages and interests. One of the largest sources of income for our contribution to library programs.

... and on and on. Take a look at the Library’s calendar of events. It’s filled with more examples of why you, the Moorpark Friends of the Library, are so valuable and valued as members, donors, and volunteers in the life of our Moorpark City Library.

-Rosalie Barili

Thank you

Building a legacy one brick at a time

MFOTL are thrilled to share exciting progress on our Legacy Brick Fundraising Campaign. Since officially launching sales on March 5, our dedicated Fundraising Committee has been hard at work – and thanks to the incredible support of our community, we’ve already sold 50 engraved bricks, averaging one brick per day. In addition, 12 mini legacy bricks have been sold, giving families and supporters a meaningful keepsake to commemorate their contributions.

We have been spreading the word far and wide! Look for our campaign in the City of Moorpark newsletter, the Moorpark Recreation guide, on social media, and right inside the Moorpark City Library. Come and watch a rotating slideshow display in the library along with a special May newsflash to showcase our efforts.

To make the campaign even more meaningful, MFOTL member Pam Orren has created a unique art installation that will soon adorn the library walls. This artistic tribute will include the names of our brick patrons, celebrating their generosity in a beautiful and lasting way.

If you haven’t reserved your brick yet, there is still time to make your mark! Visit mfotl.com/brickfundraiser for details and ordering information.

Let your legacy be part of Moorpark’s future – One brick at a time.

-Lori Preciado

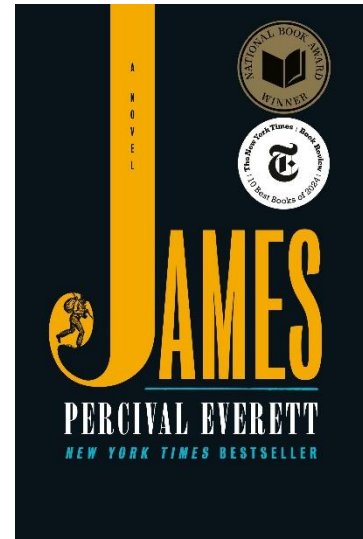
What Are You Reading?

James by Percival Everett

When Jim overhears that he is about to be sold to a man in New Orleans, separated from his wife and daughter forever, he runs away until he can formulate a plan. Meanwhile, Huck has faked his own death to escape his violent father. As all readers of American Literature know, thus begins the dangerous and transcendent journey by raft down the Mississippi River toward the elusive and unreliable promise of the Free States and beyond.

This book is a reimagining of *Adventures of Huckleberry Finn*. It is both harrowing and funny as told from the enslaved Jim's point of view. Every chapter was a new adventure. Copies of this book recently covered the storefront windows of a known bookstore, and I wondered if the promotion would live up to the hype. It did! I highly recommend this book.

-Teri Glazier



BE OUR GUEST

Do you know that anyone may attend a meeting of the MFOTL Board of Directors? We warmly welcome you to learn more about what MFOTL does to support the Moorpark City Library, especially as we move forward to our New Library!

Who: You and others who might be interested in joining us!

When: The 3rd Tuesday of every other month starting at 2 p.m.

Where: Conference Room of the Ruben Castro Human Services facility

How to Attend: Just pick your desired date and notify the board president at MFOTLpresident@gmail.com three days before to receive information about attendance.

The remaining three meetings for 2025 are scheduled for: July 15, September 16 & November 18.



New Library Update

The Moorpark City Council voted at their meeting on Wednesday, May 21, to authorize sending the project out to bid. Hopefully, a contract can be awarded in July, and groundbreaking will follow at a date to be determined. The City will send a press release when the groundbreaking is scheduled.

-Rosalie Barili

Bargain Book Sale



Get Ready for Rainy Weather or a Visit to the Beach!

Collect your bargain stash of books from the library porch today.

Just **\$2** for all you can stuff into the provided bag!

Then come inside for additional bargains (DVDs and more).

And don't forget to browse the bookstore for a wide selection of books for adults and children.

International Libraries Tour - Fourth Stop: Sweden

Another amazing stop on our international libraries tour! Kungliga biblioteket (KB) is the National Library of Sweden with collections that extend more than a thousand years. In 1661, Sweden introduced a legal deposit act which required all printers to deliver one copy of their material to KB. While it was originally intended as an instrument of censorship, it has helped preserve Sweden's manuscripts, books, newspapers, music, TV programmes and pictures. In the late 1900s, the act was expanded to include sound, moving images and video games.

The ever-growing collections currently hold over 18 million items, mostly stored in underground storage rooms. KB



is identified as a key player in the work to strengthen the library sector with the main goal being to make tax-funded research freely available to read, download and distribute. Additionally, KB administrates and develops the Swedish national library catalogue, Libris. It contains ten million titles – books, newspapers, magazines and pictures – from about 500 Swedish libraries (<https://www.kb.se/in-english/about-us/the-national-library-of-sweden.html>). Stay tuned to see which library we will visit next!

-Eleanor LaBarbera

Moorpark Friends of the Library Membership

Our many wonderful Friends!

Benefactor (\$500 or more donation)

Rosalie Barili - Teri Glazier - Linda Goble - Yan Linn & Zin Myint -
Nicki Partain - Joe Tedder

Premier (\$100-\$499 donation)

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Chaya Blum
Karen Bouvet
Melissa Conkey
Christy Corbett
Chic & Maggie Dabbs
Kathy Ekker

Linda Elston
Katherine Wolverton Ito
Julie Jeftic
Ellis & Mary Kaufman
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Holly Lambert
Cherie Lashmet
Marilyn Ludwig
Jaime Luna

Heather McGregor
Kathryn McGrew
Linda Price
Julie & Bill Prigge
Karol Rieder
Shari Sullivan
Richard & Elizabeth Towers
Ute & Mark Van Dam
Marsha & Stewart Wyler

Individual (\$10-\$24 donation)

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Andrea Lamberth

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Rosalind Mitzenmacher
Kira Nakanishi
Leon Older
Lokelani Rosehill
Julie Safley

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Website: www.mfotl.com

happy
SUMMER

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The Moorpark Friends of the Library (MFOTL) is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit tax-exempt organization registered with the IRS and the State of California.
