



# June 2023 Newsletter



So much is going on in our lives lately. Now that Covid is less of a threat than in the past three years, we are all diving with gusto into more activities than our calendars can handle, it seems. Just a couple of the recent ones:

Lou Langkusch, Carmen Jerome and I chose to staff an MFOTL booth at the Moorpark Earth Festival and Community Yard Sale on May 6. Quite a few folks visited with us, learned about our role in supporting the library, and picked up "join-up" envelopes. Besides the fun of talking about our favorite subject, this event is one we especially enjoy. And a great bonus, a free Moorpark apricot tree was given to the early-comers to the event.

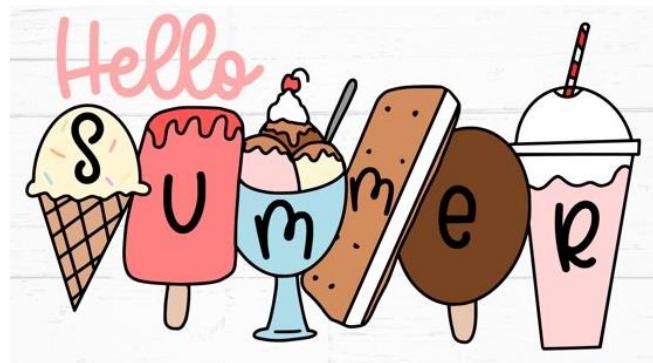
Three of our members loved being judges of the library bookmark contest and found two winners in each category of K-2, 3-5, 6-8, 9-12, and adult (new this year). Look for these beautiful bookmarks at the library to enjoy our community's artistic talent and mark your place (we know you don't bend down the book corners!).

Mark your calendars for the opening of the Summer Reading Program on June 10. Be sure to come for the fun and look for the special treat of Kona Ice. The Friends will receive 20% of the sales, so come thirsty ☺.

And most importantly, get ready for that Membership Appreciation evening! It was necessary to delay it to June 23, so that we could feature our talented jazz band from Moorpark High School. See inside for details!

As always, thank you for your support and for loving the library.

Rosalie Barili  
President, Moorpark Friends of the Library



## Moorpark's "Biggest Little Bookstore"

Have you stopped by our "Biggest Little Bookstore" lately? The nonfiction section is expanding and there's so much more to explore and discover! Now there are several books on the subject of art ranging from drawing and painting to books about some of the world's greatest artists. Additionally, our book selection now covers a wide array of topics such as: water wise gardening and drought tolerant plants, the many aspects of crafting, history, politics, biographies, memoires, cookbooks, travel, movies, and humor. On the very top shelf are several old books of both fiction and nonfiction, some dating back to the early 1900s. Inside the bookstore, as always, we have the best deals on children's books, most priced at \$0.50, and also teen and young adult books for the same price.

Since the product availability of our bookstore is based on donations we have gotten some surprising things to sell. In the past year we've had board games, coloring books, jigsaw puzzles, and craft kits. You just never know what you will find! Stop by our "Biggest Little Bookstore" and see what gently used treasures you can bring home.

~Diana Fowler



## Earth Fest & Yard Sale

On Saturday, May 6, three board members manned a Friends of the Library booth at the City's Earth Fest & Yard Sale event. We had a selection of books for adults and for children, all related to Earth Day concerns, such as gardening, environment, and recycling. These could be

purchased by a donation of the buyer's choice.

Many attendees stopped and chatted, showing interest in the library and in the Friends. We were happy to describe our organization and its goals, and to freely hand out join-up envelopes. All in all, it was a pleasant morning at Arroyo Vista Park connecting with the friendly folks in our community.

~Lou Langkusch

# Remembering Erma Bombeck

My latest read, via the online library service “Libby,” is an anthology of some of Erma Bombeck’s best articles called *Forever, Erma*. Many of them made me giggle, cry, or flinch, but the one I share with you now will resonate with those of us who **VOLUNTEER!**

~Rosalie Barili

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## “The Volunteer” – June 24, 1975

I had a dream the other night that every volunteer in this country, disillusioned with the lack of compassion, had set sail for another country.

As I stood smiling on the pier, I shouted, ‘Goodbye, creamed chicken. Goodbye, phone committees. So long, Disease-of-the-Month. No more saving old egg cartons. No more getting out the vote. Au revoir, playground duty, bake sales and three-hour meetings.’

As the boat got smaller and they could no longer hear my shouts, I reflected, ‘Serves them right. A bunch of yes people. All they had to do was to put their tongue firmly against the roof of their mouth and make an O sound. Nnnnnnnnooooooo. Nnnnnnnnooooooo. Nnoo. No! No! It would certainly have spared them a lot of grief. Oh, well, who needs them?’

The hospital was quiet as I passed it. Rooms were void of books, flowers and voices. The children’s wing held no clowns, no laughter. The reception desk was vacant.

The home for the aged was like a tomb. The blind listened for a voice that never came. The infirm were imprisoned by wheels on a chair that never moved. Food grew cold on trays that would never reach the mouths of the hungry.

All the social agencies had closed their doors, unable to implement their programs of Scouting, recreation, drug control, Big Sisters, Big Brothers, YWCA, YMCA, the retarded, the crippled, the lonely and the abandoned.

The health agencies had signs in the window: ‘Cures for cancer, muscular dystrophy, birth defects, multiple sclerosis, emphysema, sickle cell anemia, kidney disorders, heart diseases, etc., have been canceled due to lack of interest.’

The schools were strangely quiet with no field trips and no volunteer aides on the playground or in the classroom...as were the colleges, where scholarships and financial support were no more.

The flowers on church altars withered and died. Children in day nurseries lifted their arms, but there was no one to hold them in love. Alcoholics cried out in despair, but no one answered, and the poor had no recourse for health care or legal aid.

But the saddest part of the journey was the symphony hall, which was dark and would remain that way. So were museums, (and libraries: editor), which had been built and stocked by volunteers with the treasures of our times.

I fought in my sleep to regain a glimpse of the ship of volunteers just one more time. It was to be my last glimpse of civilization. . .as we were meant to be.”

~ Erma Bombeck



## UPCOMING EVENTS

2023 Summer Reading Kickoff: Touch a Truck - Saturday, June 10 from 10:00 a.m. - noon  
The Moorpark Friends of the Library will be joining in on the fun and offering a Children's Used Book Sale. Everything will be \$5 a bag or \$4 a bag for MFOTL Members. The Friends of the Library will also receive 20% of all sales from the Kona Ice Truck.

Summer Used Book Sale - Saturday, July 22 from 9:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.  
A giant parking lot sale of children's, young adult, and adult books will be held on Saturday, July 22 and continue through July 31 on the front porch of the library. Books are \$5 a bag, or \$4 a bag for members of the Friends of the Library.

California State Parks Week - June 14 - 18

Celebrate by visiting the Moorpark City Library and checking out a Parks Pass! Park Passes provide free vehicle day-use entry into a participating state park, and you can visit more than one state park while you have the pass checked out. For more information visit [moorparkca.gov/ParksPass](http://moorparkca.gov/ParksPass).

Snuggly Saturday - June 24, All Day

Take some time to relax and cozy up with family and friends by playing board games or making something exciting in the creative craft corner. Pajamas are welcomed for an extra snuggly atmosphere!

~Teri Glazier & Christine Conwell



***Rescheduled!***  
**Annual Member Appreciation Event**  
**"Jazz After Hours at the Library!"**



In appreciation for all your kind support this past year, we are excited to bring you an evening with the award-winning Moorpark High School Jazz Band! There will also be a presentation by an MHS music student about her exciting new program at the library. As always, delicious refreshments will be provided. You won't want to miss any of this!

**It will take place on: Friday, June 23, 2023, from 6 to 8 p.m.**

at the Moorpark City Library. An email invitation has been sent to our members - kindly let us know by Friday, June 14 that you will attend and how many guests you will bring.

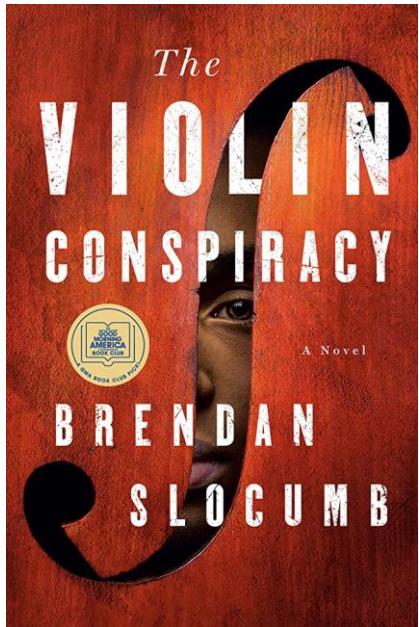
Thank you, our valued members, for annually renewing your membership, for your donations of gently used books and other needed supplies, for the gift of your volunteer time, and for supporting our fundraising efforts. All of your support enables the Friends to do what is the heart of our organization → to sponsor innovative library programs for all ages and interests in our community.

~Lou Langkusch



## What Are You Reading?

*The Violin Conspiracy* by Brendan Slocumb (2022)



Ray McMillian has a gift and a dream - he's determined to become a world-class professional violinist, and nothing will stand in his way. Not his mother, who wants him to stop the racket; not the fact that he can't afford a violin suitable for his talents; not even the racism and prejudice inherent in the often-rarified world of classical music.

When Ray discovers that his beat-up family fiddle is a priceless Stradivarius, all his dreams suddenly seem within reach. Together, Ray and his violin take the world by storm. But on the eve of the renowned and cut-throat Tchaikovsky Competition, the Olympics of classical music, the violin is stolen, a ransom note for five million dollars left in its place. Ray feels like he's lost a piece of himself. As the competition approaches, Ray must not only reclaim

his precious violin but prove to himself, and the world, that no matter the outcome, there has always been a great musician with him.

Having never taken my musical talent past piano Chopsticks, I wondered if I could relate to this book. I loved it! I learned so much about playing classical music on the violin. Ray's character was well-developed, as I anguished with him on the loss of his violin and rooted for his success as he showed the world his talent.

~Teri Glazier

## PayPal Donations

We recently received a large donation to the MFOTL account through the PayPal Giving Fund, a registered 501(c)3 public charity that helps people support their favorite charities online. The program enables people to make donations through eBay, GoFundMe, Humble Bundle and other internet businesses. One of the nice features about this program is that there are no PayPal Giving Fund fees. If you are thinking of donating funds to MFOTL, other than a direct contribution by check, we invite you to consider this pathway.

Many thanks for your support in all your generous ways!

~Rosalie Barili



# Moorpark Friends of the Library Membership

We appreciate you, our Friends, for all your kind support!

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Facebook: [www.facebook.com/Moorparkfriends of the library](https://www.facebook.com/Moorparkfriends of the library)  
Email: [mfotlibrary@gmail.com](mailto:mfotlibrary@gmail.com)  
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\*\*\*\*\*

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[rosaladyone@gmail.com](mailto:rosaladyone@gmail.com)  
[mom2jt@sbcglobal.net](mailto:mom2jt@sbcglobal.net)

[bernadettebmcdowell@gmail.com](mailto:bernadettebmcdowell@gmail.com)  
[carmenjerome@hotmail.com](mailto:carmenjerome@hotmail.com)  
[langkuschpta@yahoo.com](mailto:langkuschpta@yahoo.com)  
[evillanuevax3@yahoo.com](mailto:evillanuevax3@yahoo.com)  
[teriemersonglazier@gmail.com](mailto:teriemersonglazier@gmail.com)  
[donadpugh@sbcglobal.net](mailto:donadpugh@sbcglobal.net)  
[joellenh@aol.com](mailto:joellenh@aol.com)  
[loripreciado@rocketmail.com](mailto:loripreciado@rocketmail.com)

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[eleanor.labarbera@gmail.com](mailto:eleanor.labarbera@gmail.com)  
[mkob2012@gmail.com](mailto:mkob2012@gmail.com)