Okay, let’s be real – chances are that you have either caught a Pokémon in the past week, or you know someone who has. But just in case you missed the news flash about the massive Pokémon Go phenomenon, here’s the scoop:

Pokémon started out as a video game released back in 1996. The franchise has since exploded into a multimedia juggernaut that includes movies, TV shows, toys, video games, and comic books – all of which have accumulated a gross revenue of over $46 billion. Yes, forty-six billion dollars. That should put it into perspective.

Pokémon Go is the latest video game to be released in the franchise. It came out on July 6th as a free-to-play augmented reality game for mobile devices. In English, that means: 1) you can download and play it for free, 2) the game is designed to work only on smart phones, tablets, and other mobile devices, and 3) the game uses your device’s GPS and camera to help you locate and capture small “pocket monsters” that you can only see through your device.

According to USA Today, Pokémon Go was downloaded 15 million times in the first week of its release. Only five days after its release, the game was drawing in about 21 million active daily users – which would make it the most popular mobile game in U.S. history.

So that’s what it is. But here’s the fun part: these crazy little Pokémon have invaded the Altadena Library! They are hiding in the book stacks, skittering through the Reading Court, loafing in the Magazine Lounge, and gathering in the Community Room. Here’s an abbreviated list of Pokémon that have been caught inside the library to date: Pidgey, Mankey, Rattata, Ryhorn, Ponyta, Geodude, Eevee, and Zobat. In addition, the Public Services Director, Ryan Roy, found a Bellsprout growing right out of his desk. Director Mindy Kittay snagged a Charmander on the conference table in her office, and Library Page Kiri Lahey has been catching various Pokémon all around the building, ranking up her avatar to level 10.

“With two Pokéstops to discover at the Altadena Library’s main location, and two more accessible from the Branch location— the Altadena Library District is the perfect place for casual Pokémon hunters and serious trainers alike to grow their collection. And just to help you fill out your Pokedex, the Altadena Library will regularly plant lures at the main library’s Pokéstop in August. A lure is device in the game that attracts multiple Pokémon to that location! So whether you are currently building your collection or just now planning to start – it’s the perfect time to come out to the library, join up with fellow Pokémon enthusiasts, and have a blast with Pokémon Go.
From the Director

Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life.

– Sidney Sheldon

The role of the Altadena Library is to improve the quality of life for our residents by providing opportunities for everyone to reach their full potential. But we need help!

While the Library’s annual operating budget covers staff salaries, the 1 Gig Wifi, the purchase of books, videos, music, and periodicals, keeping the lights on, the water running and the electricity flowing, the budget doesn’t stretch far enough to cover critically-needed repairs and upgrades to major library systems. For example, when the library was built in the 1960s, patrons did not need access to electric power throughout the library. Today, people often bring their own electronic devices to the library when they visit and need to plug them in while they’re here. The main Library’s electrical system has been periodically updated, but to meet current demands it needs a complete overhaul. If you’re interested, I have a list of major deferred maintenance and upgrades I can share with you as this is just the tip of the iceberg.

Are you a baby boomer?

If you were born in the 20 years following World War II, you are. The good news is that you’re expected to live longer, in better health and retire later. Regardless of whether or not you’re continuing to work, when you reach age 70 ½ Uncle Sam starts to collect the taxes that were deferred on your IRA or retirement plan account contributions each year as you take your IRS-required minimum distribution. Do you have a plan to shelter these funds from taxes and preserve as much of your spending power as possible? If not, consider making a donation to the Altadena Library. The Altadena Library Foundation is a 501(c)(3) charitable and educational organization, making contributions tax-deductible to the extent provided by law.

But that’s not the only reason to consider making a donation. Giving to the library is a way to give a hand to a neighbor in need, a resource to help them build a better life.

Supporting your local library is patriotic: our democracy relies on an educated population to vote intelligently on critical issues, get interested, informed and involved in public causes, become civic leaders and leave our children and grandchildren an America in better shape than the one we inherited.

When you give to the library, you give to the community. Library events and programs draw together our diverse citizenry to celebrate our history through special events, to share different perspectives and bold artistic statements, and to enjoy music and food from cultures across the globe.

Have I convinced you?

To make a donation from your IRA or retirement account or simply to make a donation contact us at 626 470-7323 or email us at info@altadenalibraryfoundation.org.

[1] The required minimum distribution for any year is the account balance as of the end of the immediately preceding calendar year divided by a distribution period from the IRS’s “Uniform Lifetime Table.” See www.irs.gov/retirement-plans for more information.

Bob Lucas Memorial Branch

Boy Scouts Rock!

In July we had 3 Boy Scouts volunteer at the Branch to earn their merit badge for “citizenship in the community” to gain their Eagle Scout status! The Boy Scouts helped us shelve books, shelf read (make sure the books are in order by Dewey Decimal), clean DVDs, and laminate literacy material for 8 hours each. We kept them busy!

The boys also had great suggestions to give us on what books to add to our book collection. They recommend the I Survived series which sets current and past disasters in a kid’s perspective. They are very sophisticated readers who also enjoy books such as 13 Hours, Lone Survivor, and American Sniper.

They also played games as part of our Games Day for our Summer Reading Program. Literacy Coordinator, Edward had fun introducing them to the game King of Tokyo. The Scouts did a great job and we are happy to give them this opportunity to earn their badges. We have lots of volunteer opportunities – stop by and ask about them!
Children  Check out TumbleBooks

One of our favorite resources here in the Children’s Department is the online collection of e-books for children called the TumbleBookLibrary. TumbleBooks are created by taking existing picture books, adding animation, sound, music and narration to produce an electronic picture book which children can read, or have read to them. They are a great way to encourage kids to enjoy reading!

The TumbleBookLibrary collection contains more than 250 animated, talking picture books! The site also features Spanish and French books, read-along chapter books, non-fiction books, and exciting games and puzzles! The web site is easy for children to navigate and allows children to hear stories read fluently and follow along word by word.

The TumbleBook Library collection can be accessed online from every computer in our libraries with an Internet connection, or from home through a direct link on our library web site. You can use your computer, tablet, or mobile phone! All you need is an internet connection. There are no downloads: books are streamed right to your device at the click of a button.

To access the collection from home click on the Tumblebooks link on the library website www.altadenalibrary.org/kids-parents. You will be required to enter your library card number the first time you log in. As long as you have you cookies enabled, you will only have to enter the card number once. Every subsequent login will give you direct access to the collection without having to enter their card number again.

Happy Tumbling, everyone!

Tumblebooks is available to you and your child by clicking on the gold Tumblebooks button under the Kids & Teens tab at AltadenaLibrary.org

Teens  Game Design

Ean Moore, a Los-Angeles based instructor who has taught several awesome coding and game design workshops at Altadena Library will be back by popular demand this September he will teach a teen Particle Simulator workshop using Game Maker. Moore is dedicated to inspiring students to embrace STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) careers. He teaches complex topics through dynamic, interactive workshops that emphasize teamwork. Ean explains that game design is “fascinating enough to easily grasp the attention of children, but versatile enough to establish life long careers in a variety of fields; game design is an excellent platform to inspire children (and adults) to embrace the many guises of computer science and digital art through video games.”

For readers unfamiliar with Game Makers, it is basically a gentle introduction to coding specifically for those interested in designing games because users can get a game up and running without writing complicated code!

Tell your teens they – won’t want to miss this interactive fun!
American Ghosts: Ghost Signs of the United States
Tuesday, August 23 at 7 pm at the Main Library with Dr. Ken Jones

Painted by people who called themselves “Wall Dogs,” ghost signs, or painted brick ads, once covered almost every available brick wall in cities and towns across the United States. They advertised tobacco, soft drinks, alcohol, patent medicines, shoes – anything and everything.

Starting in 2009, Dr. Ken Jones has photographed over 7000 ghost signs in over 4000 cities and towns in 48 states. He photographs the signs in “high resolution” - mosaicking dozens to hundreds of individual images to produce as close to an archival version as possible. He has acquired and mosaicked almost half-a-million individual photos. Many of the signs he has photographed are already gone - painted over, demolished, covered by new construction, or “restored.”

Dr. Jones, a graduate of Caltech and Brown University, is a long time Altadena resident. In the 1970’s, he was a member of the Viking Imaging Flight Team at JPL. He was awarded the NASA Public Service award for his work on Viking Lander data. In 1979, he entered the motion picture industry, working as a Visual Effects Supervisor with credits on films such as Titanic, The Parent Trap, Frida, and Contact.

Using skills developed in both occupations, he has created techniques to photograph ghost signs in difficult situations. The challenges include removing pesky utility poles and wires that block the signs, and photographing signs in tight spaces, such as a three story high sign in a three foot wide alley. Although the talk focuses on ghost signs, these techniques can also be applied to any landscape or architectural photography. He has developed Photoshop techniques to bring out the hidden ghost layers in signs, revealing the content of these signs for the first time in almost a century.

Dr. Jones will discuss why ghost signs appear “ghostly”, how he locates and photographs the signs, and his methods for enhancing the images. He will show examples of some of the more provocative signs and products, such as “Dr. Pierce’s Favorite Prescription – Cures Weak Women.” He will also discuss the pros and cons of “restoring” ghost signs, including examples of how things can go very wrong.

An accompanying photography exhibit highlights the ghost signs of Altadena and Pasadena. Have you ever noticed the Pasadena ghost signs for Studebaker, Paige-Jewett, Oakland, Oldsmobile, and Locomobile brand automobiles? Or how about 5 cent cigars? Are there others? Post your finds to our Facebook page!

No Guilt Book Club Two-Faced Tales / Tuesday August 9, 7pm

Around 1888, successful, well-known, and white, Clarence King met the woman who would shortly thereafter become his wife, Ada Copeland. Because she was black, King convinced her that he, too, was of black ancestry. Hence the title, Passing Strange: a gilded age tale of love and deception across the color line by Martha Sandweiss. King claimed that he worked as a Pullman porter and that his name was James Todd. He kept the truth a secret from her, and he kept HER a secret from his many distinguished friends. King’s black wife didn’t consider him white, nor did her community. Author Martha Sandweiss has us consider that King was not really much involved in an inter-racial relationship as he was in a high-level double identity. King moved easily enough between his black and white worlds, two separate worlds that knew him as totally different persons of different races. Not until the end of his life, when he was literally days away from death, did the two worlds meet.

Purple Hibiscus by Chimamanda Ngozi Adichie is a must read for anyone who is interested in family dynamics, the nature of faith and freedom, or modern-day Nigeria. It’s told through the eyes of 15-year-old Kambili Achike. Kambili’s Father Eugene, a wealthy Igbo businessman and newspaper publisher, is in many ways a heroic figure; he is a pillar of the church, loyal and generous to his employees and home village and one of the few publishers with the courage to stand up to the military government. The same fanatic religious faith that feeds his stern public morality, however, leads him to ostracize his father and physically abuse his wife and children.

Kambili, who has lived under her father’s hand throughout her life, is a shadow of a person as the novel begins. As the story progresses, she learns independence and self-reliance from her university-professor Aunt Ifeoma, her teenage cousin Amaka and the iconoclastic priest Father Amadi. At the same time, the deterioration of the country and her father’s increasingly abusive behavior drive the family closer to collapse.

This is achingly beautiful language in a story with political, philosophical, psychological drama and realism. At times we wanted to look away at the pain, but the excitement and depth kept us transfixed. After this reading, Adichie’s other novels were then checked out by Book Club members.
Media Lounge

What is the best way to beat the summer heat?

Lounging at the library! If you haven’t had the chance to visit the new Media Lounge at the main Altadena Library, you owe it to yourself to swing by for a visit.

This new area brings two of the library’s amazing collections – the Music CDs and the Audiobooks – to a single location, which is tied together with coffee tables and comfortable seating. Similar to our Magazine Lounge, this is a great area in which to relax with some reading material, socialize with your fellow community members, or peruse our media collections.

The Music CD collection at the Altadena Library is absolutely one of the best around. Our wall of music has numerous genres to choose from, including Blues, Country, Jazz, Pop, Rock, and Soundtracks – just to name a few. New music is added every month, so the collection stays fresh and interesting.

And the same can be said for our Audiobook collection as well. New titles are added regularly to our wide selection of fiction and nonfiction books on CD. These are perfect for people on the go, whether you have a long commute, an upcoming trip, or if you simply enjoy long walks or jogs and hearing a good story as you exercise.

So come on in and check out this wonderful new part of the library. With a selection as wide and diverse as ours, the new Media Lounge has something great for everyone.

Upcoming No Guilt Book Club Get Togethers

No Guilt = Come even if you haven’t read the book

2nd Tuesday Nights 7 to 8 pm

August 9, 2016
The Readers of Broken Wheel Recommend by Katarina Bivald
My Family and Other Animals by Gerald Durrell

September 13, 2016
Once Upon a River by Bonnie Jo Campbell
The West Without Water: What Past Floods, Droughts, and Other Climatic Clues Tell Us About Tomorrow by B. Lynn Ingram

October 11, 2016
Want Not by Jonathon Miles
Chasing the Scream: the First and Last Days of the War on Drugs by Johann Hari

The Second Saturday Concert Series Returns in October

Second Saturday’s (mostly) from 6:30 to 8:30 pm
Listen to great music as you sip beer and wine from The Ale House; savor grilled eats from El Patron; and sample delectable desserts from Sweeter Than Honey.

UPSTREAM
Streaming in on October 8
KENNY SARA AND THE SOUNDS OF NEW ORLEANS
Returning November 12
Aaron Atkins: Into the Cole.
One Man Show December 3 (First Saturday)
Louis Van Taylor Quintet
Jazz n More on February 11
DeRumba
Rumba with us on March 11
Splish Splash Band
Travel through Time on April 8
Local Dogs Who Helps Kids Read

Dogs can do a lot of things. Sniff. Snooze. Snuggle. But can dogs help children to read?

Yes, they can! And Altadena Library makes it as easy as A-B-C!

On the first Saturday of each month, you may recognize a canine visitor, pictured above, in the children’s area of our library. This is Cedar! He is a three year old collie, and he likes nothing more than being read to….by children!

A little over a year ago, Cedar’s person Michelle was visiting a friend and her six-year old daughter at their home. The little girl spent her time reading to Cedar. Michelle witnessed Cedar so engaged, and the little girl so thrilled with his attentiveness! And so began Cedar’s journey to become committed to reading programs at libraries. Cedar was certified for therapy work through Therapy Dogs International when he turned two years old. This beautiful collie is social and patient with children, and this was obviously the right job for him.

Cedar Shares a Secret! “I tend to doze when being read to! The voices lull me, and I relax completely.”

Usually, a small group of children can be seen milling around in eager anticipation of this four-legged friend who they’ve come to know. No one need register ahead of time. In fact, your child can visit and watch from afar to see what it’s all about. Perhaps one day, they may volunteer to read a page to Cedar too!

A whole world opens up to a child once they learn to read. But getting there can be a challenge. It takes plenty of practice, and a non-judgmental listener.

That is where the dogs come in. Just look at what a great listener Cedar is! These children have his full attention!

A pre-selection of animal-related short stories are available to choose from. The curated books can help children understand that animals experience a range of emotions similar to their own. And that they have basic needs much like those of humans. This, in turn, encourages them to appreciate the importance of treating all animals, nonhuman and human, with respect and kindness.

Cedar will not correct ‘mistakes’. He will not get impatient. He has no expectations. And he will certainly never get bored. A perfect recipe for reading success!

Cedar can see you next on Saturday, August 6 at 11am. Your children will enjoy reading to this furry, outgoing friend! Cedar so enjoys each reader visiting with him. And remember, snoozing is a good sign!

Read to CEDAR

A whole world opens up to a child once they learn to read. But getting there can be a challenge. It takes plenty of practice, and a non-judgmental listener.

Library fan Amy P. from upstate Washington wrote the Altadena Library to see if we would donate an inactive card to her growing collection of library cards. We were thrilled to get the letter and happy to accommodate such a fun request!”
**Children**  
*Zombie in Love* by Kelly DiPucchio  
Zombie in Love by Kelly DiPucchio  
Mortimer, a zombie, is looking for love, but when all of his attempts to locate a sweetheart fail, Mortimer decides to place an ad in the newspaper.

**Teens**  
**ZOM ROM COM! Or Zombie Romantic Comedy . . .**

Some readers will delve into the romance genre only if the squishy love scenes are coupled with horror or humor (or both!). Teen Librarian, Carrie Wilson, is such a reader, as are many teens and adults. Carrie was able to digest the following books and films, (which are ostensibly romance novels!)

**Pride and Prejudice and Zombies (book and film)**  
by Seth Grahame-Smith

Although this book is housed in the adult fiction collection, it has definite teen appeal! High school students assigned to read Pride and Prejudice may enjoy a lighter (gorier!) version of this tale. As may many adults who still enjoy all things zombie.

**Warm Bodies**  
by Isaac Marion

A great read-alike is the Romeo and Juliet-esque Warm Bodies. This is the story of the young zombie R, who no longer has memories of who he was before he turned, but is filled with great longing. Enter Julie, the girlfriend of someone he ate. This leads to an unconventional love story. Those are always the best kind! If you enjoy the book, check out the eponymous film.

**Adults**  
**My American Duchess** by Eloisa James

The arrogant Duke of Trent intends to marry a well-bred Englishwoman. The last woman he would ever consider marrying is the adventuresome Merry Pelford – an American heiress who has infamously jilted two fiancés.

But after one provocative encounter with the captivating Merry, Trent desires her more than any woman he has ever met. He is determined to have her as his wife, no matter what it takes. And Trent is a man who always gets what he wants.

If you want more romantic adventures, download the ebook title *Duchess by Night* by James at our ebook Overdrive page (ald.lib.overdrive.com).

**Breaking Bailey’s Rules** by Brenda Jackson

Rule number one for Bailey Westmoreland: Never fall for a man who would take her away from her tight-knit family’s Colorado home. So why is she following rancher Walker Rafferty all the way to Alaska? Bailey tells herself she owes the sexy loner an apology, and once she gets there, it’s only right to stay and help him when he’s injured...isn’t it? Before long, Bailey realizes home might be where you make it – if Walker is ready to take all she has to offer.

**Me Before You** by Jojo Moyes

Despite her lack of nursing experience, former waitress Louisa Clark lands a job as daytime caretaker for recently paralyzed quadriplegic businessman Will Traynor. Will’s wealthy family prays that this cheerful young woman can dispel his depression and determination to end his own life. Louisa is horrified when she learns that euthanasia has been scheduled and sets out to enrich Will’s life enough to restore his will to live. This book is also available in ebook format on our library Overdrive page (http://ald.lib.overdrive.com).
Read to Cedar
Saturday, September 3 at 11 am
Children read to the dog, Cedar, a non-judgmental listener who teaches love of reading.

We are CLOSED for Labor Day Holiday
Monday, September 5

Friends of the Library Meeting
Monday, September 12 at 7:30 pm
You are welcome to attend and meet Altadena Library’s support group.

Coffee & Conversation
Saturday, September 17 from 10:30 to 11:30
Visit with our Library Director, Mindy Kittay – always a lively discussion!

LEGO Club
Saturday, September 17 at 2pm
LEGOs are provided – bring your imagination! Duplo blocks available for children under 4.

Local Artist – Eon Jung

I am a graphic artist, UX designer, illustrator, and dreamer. I live in the Altadena area and was born and raised in South Korea. I moved to America for work 8 years ago by myself. I started painting because it was the only language that I was able to communicate with people at that time.

California is a fascinating place, and I am so lucky to be surrounded by the full of beautiful towns, mountains, beaches and the happiest people. I didn’t fully understand this in the beginning: you become a reflection of the world around you, and the world around you becomes what you create. I certainly feel I am in the right place for this kind of inspiration.

Everything around me inspires me, and one of the my main influences is travel. Traveling gives me ideas, laughter, connections and I meet people from all walks of life. I love seeing ordinary moments becoming captured in art. I hope you enjoy my art!

View Eon’s work in the Reading Court during the month of August.