Second Saturday Rocks!

The Library’s new series, Second Saturday, has been a huge hit. The June show, starring the outstanding Mighty Echoes drew a crowd of over 215! They played an encore to a standing ovation! Bacon Babe, co-winner of the Berry Blast Cook Off at the 32nd California Strawberry Festival, served 100 mini peanut butter and bacon cheesecakes that were out-of-this-world delicious! The Altadena Ale and Wine House served a fine selection of beers and wine to an appreciative audience and El Patron grilled tacos on the patio. CERT, Altadena’s Community Emergency Response Team, set up their information booth on the patio, too. Second Saturdays will resume in October with the Verdugo Swing Society.

In the meantime, join the Altadena Sheriff’s Support Group at the Amphitheater in Farnsworth Park for their free summer concert series beginning July 11. Every Saturday night a different group will play. Concerts start at 7:00 PM. For more information, call 626-798-6335 or check out the web flyer at www.altadenasheriffs.org.

Got Movies, Popcorn and Air Conditioning? We Do! For Free!

Join us for a summer filled with entertaining movies for all ages! As temps climb, our air conditioning feels great -- especially when paired with a free movie and popcorn (while supplies last)! Share our love of music by joining us for the 2014 Academy Award for Best Documentary Feature, 20 Feet from Stardom. Claudia Lennear, soul singer and one of the back-up singers featured in the movie, will make a special appearance to answer questions about her career and all the famous people she has sung with! View hot new releases such as Home and Insurgent; favorites such as Guardians of the Galaxy and Pitch Perfect; and movies about music that celebrate our summer reading theme of Read to the Rhythm such as Annie and Into the Woods. This is a small sample of activities we are offering as part of our Summer Reading Program. For more information, please pick up the Summer Reading Booklet at the library or visit www.altadenalibrary.org.

Carlene Chiu
From the Director

Since 2007 the Altadena Library District has been fortunate to have David Datz as a trustee. At the June Board meeting David let it be known that he would be resigning as of July 1 so that he can re-direct his energy into a new career. I want to thank all of our Trustees for their dedication to our library, but especially David, who has given in so many ways to this institution. His work on the 2004 campaign to renew our parcel tax, his years as President of the Board, and his ongoing support of both our Foundation and Friends has been exceptional. David warmly welcomed me into my new position, bent my ear when it was needed, and always offered his support. Much of what we have been able to accomplish in the past seven months is due to his confidence in and support of me and the staff. He will be greatly missed. But we all know David is a voracious reader, so I expect it won’t be long before we see him again!

With the resignation of Trustee David Datz, the Altadena Library Board of Trustees is now accepting letters of interest from anyone who would like to serve on the board for his unexpired 2015 term. Those applying must be at least 18, a resident of and registered to vote in Altadena. The board will interview potential candidates at the next board meeting at 5 PM on July 20. The applicant selected must be willing to run in the Nov. 3, 2015 election for the four-year term for this seat, which expires in 2019. Interested parties should submit a letter of interest, resume, and completed supplemental questionnaire (on library’s website) to the Library Director by 12 PM on Tuesday, July 7, 2015.

Quote for July:
"The risk of a small number of technically savvy, for-profit companies determining the bulk of what we read and how we read it is enormous. The great beauty of the rich, diverse library system that has developed over past century and a half has been the role of librarians in selecting and making available a range of material for people to consult and enjoy. No one pressing an ideology can co-opt this system; no single commercial entity can do an end run around the library system in the interest of profit."


Branch Notes: Bob Lucas Memorial Library

In May kids of all ages celebrated their mothers by creating a bouquet of flowers out of foam, pipe cleaners, and tissue.

We offer hands-on activities like this every week! Our next crafting event, Superhero Masks, will be on July 15, at 3:00PM for teens and tweens. Young Adult Librarian, Carrie Wilson, who many of you have met at the Main Library, will be spearheading this fun craft. Teens and tweens can get in touch with their alter-egos by making superhero masks or animal ears! All materials provided, just bring your creativity! Sign up for our summer reading club to win weekly prizes, see fun performances, and be part of our interactive display. Each child that registers gets to put up a musical note as part of our Read to the Rhythm display!

Carlene Chiu
Children: Cool New Bean Bags!

Have you seen the new bean bags in the children’s room? The minute they arrived they were a BIG hit! The kids are enjoying jumping on them and parents are enjoying sneaking a quick break on them. We love seeing parents reading to their kids on them! Stop by, have a seat, and put your feet up for a while!

Cassandra Stearns

Teens: Volunteers are Our Heart and Soul

Altadena Library has a strong volunteer program for youth and teens between the ages of 10 and 17. Part of this volunteer program is the Teen Advisory Council (TAC), currently comprised of over 20 active volunteers. TAC members participate in monthly meetings, suggest collection additions, and brainstorm programming ideas and ways to increase teen/tween participation. They are crucial to the success of the teen program because they know what teens want to see at the library. The library is a vibrant place in great part because of teen participants. Some are event photographers, or assist with events, including the time-consuming process of setting up. Others create post-it art installments, artwork, and displays. Since July 2010, TAC members have volunteered over 470 hours! One volunteer, Maud O’Conner, contributed an astounding 150 service hours during that time! Library Page (volunteers who shelve books) Mikayala Arevalo turned her volunteer time into a job. She continues to be a dedicated volunteer, staying on board as a TAC member during her busy senior year. To find out more about volunteering, contact librarian Carrie Wilson.

Carrie Wilson

Library Board Welcomes Adalila Zelada-Garcia

A lawyer, an urban farmer, a home-schooling mom and now a library board member — Adalila Zelada-Garcia was appointed to fill the position on the board formerly held by Tom Hubbard, who recently resigned. Adalila and her husband, Hop Hopkins, cofounded Panther Ridge Farm in Altadena, where on a 1/4 of an acre, they raise chickens, grow fruit and vegetables and share this connection to the earth through their Outdoor School, an environmental education program that offers wilderness and agricultural experiences for children and their families. A bilingual lawyer with a specialization in immigration law and a passion for food policy work, Adalila is excited by the prospect of helping shape Altadena’s libraries. “There is great potential for turning the library into a center for our diverse community. Books, periodicals and computer stations are a part of that, but there is so much more: culture, art, music and instruction! Libraries can help educate informed and well-rounded citizens. A great example is the recent collaboration between the Bob Lucas Branch and CHIRLA (Coalition for Humane Immigrant Rights of Los Angeles) to help people understand the new laws concerning driver’s licenses for undocumented immigrants.”

Adalila received her Bachelor’s Degree from UCLA in 1998 with a double major in Sociology and Political Science, with an International Relations emphasis. She received her law degree from Loyola Law School in 2001, where she was a Public Interest Scholar and recipient of the Dean’s Service Award. She has her own practice, but admits that it is taking a backseat to her current interests in her family, Panther Ridge, food policy, and community service through serving on the Library Board.
Librarians aren’t the only ones who know things. In this column we hope to share interesting information about our patrons. So if you know something, tell a librarian.

**Pauli Dutton**, our illustrious former Interim Library Director, was sighted at Second Saturday enjoying the Mighty Echoes! We are delighted she is on board as the volunteer coordinator for the 2016 Poetry and Cookies event in April!

Local author **Mike Manning** dropped off his new book: *Man, Mountain and Monument: A Pictorial Account of the Mount Lowe Railway from Construction to Memorial* and it has now been added to our collection.

**Hal Yorke**, Altadena Rotary Club President and member of the Verdugo Swing Society, stopped by to confirm that the **Verdugo Swing Society** will be our October band for Second Saturday.

**Our Fan Mail:**
I am impressed with the quality of the Altadena Library’s holdings. The thoughtful, excellent selections over the years have been both a personal benefit and an enrichment to our community. Thanks very much to all responsible.

Sincerely,
Jill Bennett

**Anonymous / Library Patron**

I am reading *Coltrane: The Story of a Sound* by Ben Ratliff. I chose this work for the adult No Guilt Book Club’s July music theme, and because Coltrane is my favorite jazz artist. So far, I have read 65 books this year. Librarian Helen Milner issued me a challenge to read 75 in 2015 and she would, too. I’ve left her in the dust!

**Nora Lee / Library Patron**

I am rereading *The Beekeepers Apprentice* by Laurie R. King. I’ve long been a fan of the Sherlock Holmes Canon, and I know that many authors have tried to recreate Arthur Conan Doyle’s marvelous detective, but Laurie King does more than a recreation. She introduces a young woman by the name of Mary Russell, an American and a student at nearby Oxford University. When Mary practically trips over the famous investigator when he’s marking bees, the fireworks begin. This is the first in a series of their adventures throughout Europe, the Middle East, Africa and California. All are exquisitely written and painstakingly researched and so much fun to binge read.

**What Are You Reading?**

**Mother Morphine: A Play in One Act**

The Altadena Library proudly presents a reading of *Mother Morphine* from 7 PM to 9 PM on Tuesday, July 28, 2015.

*Mother Morphine: The Last 8 Days* is primarily a one-act monologue delivered by an elderly English woman, with a short appearance by an American gentleman near the end of the play. The piece imagines the internal landscape of a witty Londoner, Catherine Carmichael, as she is dying of cancer in a Connecticut retirement home in 2007. Bristling with gallows humor, Catherine wrestles with the demons of guilt, betrayal, war memories, and unfulfilled dreams, as she slides toward the inevitable in a morphine-induced reverie.

Writer/performer Mimi Seton has been called “a female Samuel Beckett.” Known for her dark sense of humor, she has garnered over a dozen press awards in L.A. for performance, writing and music composition. Her work has been produced by The Mark Taper Forum, LA Theatre Works, The Odyssey Theatre, Pasadena Playhouse, The Cast Theatre, Playwrights Arena, and others.

Mimi’s colleague on this project, actor Rick Casorla, has worked extensively on TV and in Theatre, in New York, L.A., and Edinburgh. Both Mimi and Rick were classical actors at Berkeley Repertory Theatre. Light refreshments will be served.
As more and more people began to identify with their personal need to forgive, and be forgiven, a day for atonement was created. Global Forgiveness Day is celebrated annually on July 7th and is our theme for this month’s Hot Titles.

**BOOKS**

**for Adults:**

**The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World** / Desmond M. Tutu and Mpho A. Tutu

Archbishop Desmond Tutu and his daughter, Mpho, lay out the simple but profound truths about the significance of forgiveness, how it works, why everyone needs to know how to grant it and receive it, and why granting forgiveness is the greatest gift we can give to ourselves when we have been wronged. They explain the four-step process of forgiveness—Telling the Story, Naming the Hurt, Granting Forgiveness, and Renewing or Releasing the Relationship—as well as offering meditations, exercises, and prayers to guide the reader along the way.

**The Descendants** / Kaui Hart Hemmings

Fortunes have changed for the King family, descendants of Hawaiian royalty and one of the state’s largest landowners. Matthew King’s daughters—Scottie, a feisty ten-year-old, and Alex, a seventeen-year-old recovering drug addict—are out of control, and their charismatic, thrill-seeking mother, Joanie, lies in a coma after a boat-racing accident. Forced to examine what they owe not only to the living but to the dead, Matt, Scottie, and Alex take to the road, on a memorable journey that leads to unforeseen humor, growth, and profound revelations. This story of forgiveness is available as a book, as a DVD starring George Clooney and as a soundtrack on CD -- the perfect trifecta!

**for Children:**

**The Great Unexpected** / Sharon Creech

As two very different worlds are woven together, this Newbery Medal winning author celebrates the gossamer thread that connects us all, and the great and unexpected gifts of love, friendship, and forgiveness.

**for Teens:**

**American Born Chinese** / Gene Luen Yang

The author offers three timeless fables in graphic novel form that take on stereotyping and assimilation. He writes an odd collection of stories, ranging from the realistic to the absurd to the supernatural, and yet, thanks to Yang’s beautiful artwork, the three work perfectly together, allowing all to unite in a fairly surprising way at the novel’s climax.

**DVDs**

**Departures** (Okuribito)

When his orchestra disbands, Daigo Kobayashi (Masahiro Motoki) decides to start over and moves back to his small hometown. Desperate for work, he secretly takes a job as a “Nokanshi,” a funeral professional who prepares the deceased for burial and entrance into the next life. But while working with the families of the departed, Daigo embarks on a spiritual journey of his own as he finally experiences the joy and wonder of living. This is an Academy Award Winner for Best Foreign Language Film!

Other DVD titles that deal with forgiveness include:

**The Green Mile**

**Sixth Sense**

**Mr. Holland’s Opus**

**The Color Purple**

**AUDIO BOOKS**

**Closing Time: A Memoir** / Joe Queenan

Journalist and humorist Joe Queenan’s touching and funny memoir begins by focusing on his childhood in a Philadelphia housing project in the early 1960s. He grew up with an alcoholic, abusive father, whose destructive behavior prompted the author to find a better life for himself elsewhere. At a young age, he embraced his great love of books and music and considers a career in the seminary. Queenan’s early memories of typing up his father’s drunken rants on social issues so his dad could send them to newspaper editors lead him to try a writing career after his father’s death. This is a moving memoir of family and how it makes us who we are.
Altadena BestFest
Oct. 3, 2015
BestFest is seeking participants for its juried art show, duct tape competition, general booth exhibitors, performers, and food vendors. Altadena businesses to encourage to participate in some way. Please contact Diana Phillippi at altadenabestfest.com.

Come Get In the Mood!
Oct. 10, 2015 7:00 PM
The Verdugo Swing Society has been bringing back Big Band memories since 1986. Originally formed by members of the Glendale College Jazz band, they now have local musicians from aerospace to academia. In 1988, VSS was named the official band of the City of Glendale and has played a concert and dance series for the city every summer since. In June of 1992, the band played as ambassadors at the Seville Expo in Seville, Spain. The Verdugo Swing Society has played over 500 concerts for cities, churches, schools, charitable groups and Veterans organizations. You will want to join us for a Sentimental Journey!

Francisco Ramirez, Local Latino Hero!
Thursday, Oct. 15, 2015 7:00 PM
Come learn about California’s little understood but crucial role in the nation’s greatest conflict, and about an equally unknown local Latino hero. Historians Paul Bryan Gray and Michele Zack will take us back to the Pueblo of Los Angeles in its first years as an “American” town, via an illustrated talk and dynamic conversation. Meet 18-year-old printer’s apprentice Francisco Ramirez who founded the English/Spanish language newspaper El Clamor Publico to express ideas of liberalism and democracy on the heels of California’s statehood.

Paul Gray is the author of A Clamor for Equality, (2012) the first book-length biography of Ramirez. Michele Zack is a local Altadena author and historian who loves making history alive and relevant. This program is co-sponsored by Altadena Heritage, a partner in the Altadena Libraries’ year-long series bringing Latino history and culture to our community.

No Guilt Book Club Lowers the Boom on Carthage
Staff member Sue led the No Guilt Book Club for June in a thumbs down vote to Joyce Carol Oates’ mystery, Carthage. Consensus was that it was very disjointed storytelling. U.S. Marshals by Mike Earp fared much better. Members were fascinated and surprised at how extensive their reach is and the amount of cooperation that the Marshals have with ALL other law enforcement agencies. The group was impressed with the author’s background information and how they “catch their man.”

In keeping with the Summer Reading theme of Read to the Rhythm, The Song of the Lark by Willa Cather is our fiction selection. It’s a colorful narrative of a young woman’s quest to find her musical self in 1890’s Moonstone, Colorado. Our non-fiction choices are to be made by the reader -- any biography that has to do with music. Join us for great discussions of the group’s selections. We meet at 7:00 PM the second Tuesday of the month in the Director’s office.