

**Director's Report**  
**February 6, 2012**

- Sunnyvale Public Library is participating in a NASA (National Aeronautics and Space Administration) pilot project, Astro4Girls and Their Families. Sunnyvale Library is one of nine libraries across the country that is partnering with NASA. The Library's partner is the SETI Institute, a non-profit science research organization that promotes astrobiology and science education. The Library is working with a SETI "buddy" to introduce and host events on astronomy and women in science at the Library during Women's History Month, March 2012. The goal of the program is to inspire girls and their families to discover the universe for themselves.
- Volunteers and tax experts from Intuit will be at the Library on Monday, February 27 from 2 -7 p.m. to assist taxpayers in English and Spanish to use TurboTax Freedom Edition to electronically file taxes. To qualify for this program, for the 2011 year taxpayers must have: earned \$31,000 or less; been active duty military personnel with earnings of \$57,000 or less; or qualify for Earned Income Tax Credit (EITC).
- The fifth and final part of Dr. Libra Hilde's Civil War presentations will be on Wednesday, February 8 at 7 p.m., when Dr. Hilde will discuss *Legacies & Memories of the American Civil War*. On March 7 at 7 p.m., historian Jean Libby will moderate a panel on Santa Clara County Connections to the Civil War. African American historian John W. Templeton will discuss local participation in the Underground Railroad. Alice Keeseey Mecoy, descendent of abolitionist John Brown, will also be speaking.
- Sunnyvale Public Library is participating in the Silicon Valley Reads program which is coordinated by the San Jose Public Library Foundation, the Santa Clara county Library, and the Santa Clara County Office of Education. The Sunnyvale Reads program encourages the community to read Sumbul Ali-Karamali's *The Muslim Next Door: the Qur'an, the Media, and that Veil Thing* for a better understanding of growing up Muslim in American. *The Muslim Next Door* will be discussed by the Library's monthly book group on Wednesday, February 15, 2012 at 7 p.m. On Monday, February 27, beginning at 6 p.m., two films about Muslims in America will be shown at the Library: "Talking through Wall", a documentary about building a mosque in a community with a multi-religious coalition, and "Allah Made Me Funny- Live in Concert" with comedians telling humorous stories of what it is like to be Muslim in America. Author Sumbul Ali-Karamali will appear in person at the Sunnyvale Public Library on Saturday, March 17 at 3 p.m., co-sponsored by the Friends of the Sunnyvale Library, to talk about her book and her life as a Muslim in the West. Todd Parr, children's author and illustrator of *It's OK to Be Different* will talk and draw at the Library on Sunday, February 26 at 3:30 p.m.
- The Library and Columbia Neighborhood Center are sponsoring a program in which writer and Professor Francisco Jiménez will speak to the

Sunnyvale community on Tuesday, February 7, from 6:30 to 8:00 p.m. in the Columbia Middle School Multi-Purpose Room.

- Volunteer attorneys who specialize in intellectual property will be offering free 20-minute legal consultations from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m., on the last Tuesday of each month, starting February 28. All sessions will take place at the Library. The Library is partnering with the Silicon Valley-based Pro Bono Project on the Lawyers in the Library program. The project is supported in part by a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant, administered by the California State Library.
- A tree-identification walk was set up outside the Library using QR codes, which when scanned by a smart phone or iPad, will link to digital content on the web, providing users with photographs and information about that particular tree. With the help of the City arborist, the trees were identified and pictures of the trees were gathered. QR codes have been placed in front of 15 trees. To go on the Tree Walk, download a QR reader app onto a smartphone. When a QR code is located, aim the smartphone at the code to find out more about the tree.

### **Handouts**

“Cupertino, Sunnyvale Libraries Find Aid through Friends and Foundation” by Matt Wilson and Alia Wilson, Silicon Valley Community Newspapers, 1/26/12.

“Explain Manga to Me!” by JoAnn Rees, VOYA, December, 2011.

“Libraries Succeed by Constantly Evolving” by Susan H. Hildreth, Huffington Post, 1/13/12.

“Library Will Close Its Doors on Jan. 15, but New Library to Open Soon” by Judy Peterson, Silicon Valley Community Newspapers, 1/10/12.

“Luis Herrera: LJ’s 2012 Librarian of the Year” by John N. Berry III, Library Journal, 1/9/12.

“Silicon Valley Reads 2012 Offers Many Ways to Explore a Wide-ranging Topic”, by Heather Zimmerman, Silicon Valley Community Newspapers, 2/3/12.