

Director's Report
May 21, 2012

- The Adult Services librarians have started offering a Book a Librarian service. They are taking one-on-one appointments to provide customers with extra help. So far they have used Book a Librarian sessions to: update privacy settings on Facebook; give instructions on downloading eBooks; find *Consumer Reports* online; and assist with other requests.
- With a grant from the Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA), through the California State Library, the Library purchased a Microsoft Surface, which is now available to the public in the Teen Area. The Microsoft Surface platform is a 40 inch table-sized computer that responds to touch, supporting more than 50 simultaneous inputs with a 360-degree interface. We have installed an education pack which allows students to spell, practice math concepts, design circuits, and build molecules. Additionally, the Surface allows customers to collaborate and share documents, photos, and presentations. Families, children and teens have been using the Surface, easily figuring out how to use it on their own.
- To listen to Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, author of *Farewell to Manzanar*, close to 300 people crowded into the program room on the evening of 4/18/12, sat in every chair, stood in all available spaces, and sat on tarps on the grass in the backyard. Jeanne Houston spoke of the order to send West coast Japanese residents to internment camps throughout the United States during World War II and her experiences as a child, with her family, at Manzanar internment camp. Jeanne Houston also talked of writing her book and the overwhelming response since it was published in 1973. This was the first in the California Reads program series – *Learning from the Past: the Japanese American Experience* which was sponsored by the Cal Humanities Council, the California Center for the Book and the California State Library.
- On 4/22/12 , 115 people attended a presentation in Mandarin Chinese, on healthy eating and nutritional tips, given by Greta Cheng, a registered dietician from San Francisco General Hospital. More than 60 people, 100% of those who completed evaluations, judged the program excellent.
- The Library and Columbia Neighborhood Center collaborated on a bilingual Day of the Book/Day of the Child featuring musician Juan Sánchez on 4/26/12. The joint Library/CNC program attracted 96 people who sang and danced to the music.
- On 4/26/12, Library volunteers were honored with a Volunteer Tea to thank them for the many hours that they contributed over the past year to enhance Library services for our customers.
- Through the end of March, the Library circulated 2,021,540 items. This is 119,321 more items than last year during the same period. At this rate it is very likely we will circulate 2.6 million items this year.

- During April, 96% of the circulated items were checked out from self-check machines, an all-time record!
- On 5/14/12, Dr. Michael Omi, professor of Asian American and Ethnic Studies at UC Berkeley spoke to an audience of over 100 people on the background of racial prejudice leading to the incarceration of Japanese Americans in internment camps during WWII. This program was the second in the California Reads series. The next program is a book discussion on *Farewell to Manzanar* by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston on May 23 at 7 p.m.
- The Satterberg Foundation approved, on 5/15/12, a grant for the Library to purchase eReaders featuring eBooks which will circulate to Library card holders.
- Readers can register for the Library's summer reading programs at www.sunnyvalereads.org from June 1 through 15. Children, teens and adults who register and read a specific number of books will receive prizes in addition to reading pleasure.

Handouts

"14 South Bay Volunteers Honored for Their Contributions to Community", MercuryNews.com, 3/30/12.

"Are Apps the Future of Book Publishing?" by Alex Knapp, [Forbes](http://Forbes.com), 3/30/12.

"Former San Jose Elected Officials Backing Library Funding Petition" by Mary Gottchalk, MercuryNews.com, 4/23/12.

"Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston: The Manzanar Lesson: Telling Our Stories Strengthens Democracy" by Jeanne Wakatsuki Houston, [San Jose Mercury News](http://SanJoseMercuryNews.com), 5/14/12.

"Kim Bui-Burton: Libraries' Mission a Constantly Evolving Story" by Kim Bui-Burton, [Monterey County Herald](http://MontereyCountyHerald.com), 4/8/12.

"Libraries, Publishers Struggle over e-Books Boom" by Adam Foxman, [Ventura County Star](http://VenturaCountyStar.com), 4/16/12.

"Library Hosts History Series" by Alia Wilson, [San Jose Mercury News](http://SanJoseMercuryNews.com), 4/15/12.

"Sunnyvale Public Library to Celebrate National Library Week with Storytime Finale" by Alia Wilson, MercuryNews.com, 4/12/12.

"Touch Table", MercuryNews.com, 4/26/12