

Santa Clarita Public Library May 2014 Programs and Highlights

During May, all three branches continued to offer Conversational English Class, Homework Help, Digital Drop In, Senior Creative Writing, and a variety of computer skills classes. In preparation for the 2014 Summer Reading Program beginning in June, there were no regularly scheduled storytimes during May.

The following are a few additional programs and highlights which took place in May:

Author Visit – The Friends of Santa Clarita Public Library welcomed author Margaret Dilloway to the Valencia Library. Dilloway is the author of two women's fiction novels: *How to Be an American Housewife* and *The Care and Handling of Roses and Thorns*, which won the American Library Association's Literary Tastes Award for Best Women's Fiction in 2013.

Science Club – The Science Club for school-age children continues to meet monthly at Canyon Country Library. This month's science topic was "Gears," to celebrate the AMGEN bike tour that stopped in Santa Clarita during May. Mike the Science Guy demonstrated how gears work by building a miniature bicycle gear.

Small Business Workshop – The Old Town Newhall Library featured the workshop, Accessing Capital as a Small Business, in an effort to guide small and potential business owners in raising capital. Three panels of representatives from local banks and other lenders spoke about how to obtain loans to start a small business, how to take over a small business, and how to bring capital into an existing small business. This workshop was a success due to the collaboration from local businesses including: Small Business Administration, College of the Canyons Small Business Development Center, SCORE, SoCal Certified Development Company, and SBA Lender Partners.

Voices from the Past – In honor of Memorial Day, the Newhall branch featured a World War II veteran, Hal Wilder, who spoke to adults and seniors of his own personal experiences.

Technology Petting Zoo – Best Buy's technology team, Geek Squad, visited the Old Town Newhall Branch to teach Library patrons of all ages about current electronic devices. The Geek Squad presented hands-on training to engage patrons with the devices and brought an array of various devices to explore.



Friends of Santa Clarita Public Library – On May 14, the Friends of Santa Clarita Public Library (FOL) launched a new website. The new site is more user-friendly and includes a

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calendar of upcoming FOL events, as well as photos from past events. The FOL also donated over \$24,000 to help sponsor the 2014 Summer Reading Program.

Summer Reading Program – During May, Santa Clarita Public Library (SCPL) staff geared up for the 2014 Summer Reading Program, “Paws to Read,” which began on June 9. SCPL Children’s Librarians visited local schools and spoke to 3,111 Kindergarten – 12th grade students to spread the word about the upcoming Summer Reading Program. In an effort to increase venue space, SCPL will be expanding their Summer Reading programming to include off-site locations at various high schools throughout the City.

If you have any questions, please contact me at ext. 4905.

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Attachment

cc: Ed Kieczykowski, City Librarian
City Leadership Team
Citizens Public Library Advisory Committee
Friends of Santa Clarita Public Library