

February 2017  
Commission Report  
Nancy Howe, County Librarian

## SVR 2017 Kickoff Event

Thursday, Feb 23, 7:30pm DeAnza College, Cupertino

*"...and justice for all"*



## Director of County Library Communication and Marketing

Recruitment is underway for the new position of Director of County Library Communication and Marketing. Both the Library JPA and the Board of Supervisors have now approved this brand new job specification with the deletion of the vacant Deputy Community Librarian position. We have become acutely aware that many people do not know of the services offered by libraries. The addition of this position will help us more effectively and strategically communicate with the public about library services.

## Space Act Agreement between NASA and SCCLD

The JPA approved the Umbrella Space Act Agreement between the National Aeronautics and Space Administration (NASA) and Santa Clara County Library District for collaborative efforts in the promotion of scientific learning and the Annex One agreement supporting collaborative activities focused on the August 2017 total solar eclipse.

## New Community Librarians

After an extensive national search, the Santa Clara County Library District (SCCLD) is pleased to announce the appointment of four new Community Librarians. Over 30 qualified applicants applied for

these positions, with each person completing an extremely competitive four stage application process that included oral boards and two rounds of interviews. During the nationwide search, specific qualities were looked for within the top applicants including: key leadership, management and interpersonal skills as well as the ability to support and promote the knowledge, ideas and cultural enrichment our libraries offer. Finding the perfect candidate was not a simple task, but we are proud to announce that four extremely qualified and talented librarians have been selected and will soon become our next Community Librarians at the following locations: Cupertino Library; Los Altos Hills Library; Morgan Hill Library and the Saratoga Library.

**Cupertino Library: Clare Varesio**

An exemplary model for outreach at the Cupertino Library where she has served as the Children's Supervising Librarian since 2012, and a Children's Librarian since 2007, Clare has proven her leadership skills through the development of new partnerships with local schools that had previously been under served by the library. In addition, Clare was instrumental in developing and increasing library outreach programs through creative pop-up libraries and new service and integrated classroom instruction. She has successfully worked with many community partners including partnering with the Cupertino Library Foundation in the development of the STEAM LEADS program. Serving on SCCLD's Social Media Action Committee and the Family Reading Action Team as well as being a co-instructor for Infopeople's Library Programs for School Readiness have provided Clare with invaluable working knowledge of in-house programs. *Clare will start as the Cupertino Community Librarian on Thursday, January 26, 2017.*

**Los Altos Library: Marlene Iwamoto**

Beginning her career at SCCLD as a Library Page, Marlene has gone on to work at many service areas within the Library District. From Library Page to Clerk, Library Technician, Office Specialist, Graduate Intern, Librarian, and most recently Supervising Librarian at the Campbell Library, Marlene has a deep understanding of the multi-faceted workings of a library. While at the Campbell Library, she successfully fostered partnerships within the City of Campbell as well as local schools and community groups. Additional examples of Marlene's leadership skills include developing the Campbell Library's Teen Advisory Board that helps foster leadership in local young adults, launching the California Department of Education grant-funded ESL classes and the ESL Conversation Club and implementing the Get Tech Grant of fourteen science-based programs. During her tenure at SCCLD, Marlene has served in numerous roles including Topic Team Coordinator, Collection Development Team Leader and Mentoring Program mentor. She was recently awarded the Santa Clara County Employee Excellence Award for her role in building a positive and supportive workplace culture, and later this month will receive a County Top 10 Outstanding Employee for 2016 Award. *Marlene will start as the Los Altos Community Librarian on Monday, February 27, 2017.*

**Morgan Hill Library: Heather Ann Geddes**

Heather currently serves as a Principal Librarian of the Watsonville Public Library where she oversees the entirety of system-wide public service, including collection development and the management of the main library. She is committed to shaping library policy that facilitates public access and removes

roadblocks. A strong city and community partner, Heather has served on a city negotiating committee, the Rotary Club of Freedom for 10 years where she served as president and currently serves as the co-chair of the Monterey Bay Area Cooperative Library System (MOBAC) Reference Committee. Along with successfully implementing a popular baby lap time program, she has overseen numerous ambitious projects including the digitization of over 100 years of local community newspapers, and a collaboration with Digital Nest and local high school students to produce documentary short films—a highlight of the Watsonville annual Film Festival. *Pending a background and medical check Heather will start as the Morgan Hill Community Librarian on Monday, February 27, 2017.*

**Saratoga Library: Michael Eitner**

As the former Collection Development Manager for the Denver Public Library, Michael brings with him a wealth of system and relationship management experience to the Santa Clara County Library District. In his previous position, he led significant collaborative system projects including rewriting the system's collection development policy and working on the library's first ILS migration. During a controversy over challenges to the library's collection, he coordinated key media responses and worked with local stakeholders including the Library Commission to discuss the library's selection criteria. Prior to serving as the Collection Development Manager, Michael managed the Eugene Field Branch, and before that was a librarian for the Las Vegas-Clark County Library District, serving as chair for the 2002 National Hispanic Heritage Month Committee. For the past five years Michael has been working in the legal field; most recently as a lawyer where he has been developing his critical thinking, communication, and negotiation talents. It was his deep desire to return to the library field that led him to SCCLD. *Pending a background and medical check Michael will start as the Saratoga Community Librarian on Monday, February 27, 2017.*