

Once again, I'm sorry, I won't be able to attend the library commission meeting. Please accept my Friends written report.

Elayne Dauber

We had another successful sale the second weekend in November at the new community center. Our patrons seem to love the spaciousness and excellent lighting. Sales were slightly less than in August, probably because a couple of the big buyers did not attend. We earned close to \$14,000, about \$1000 less than August. The big difference came on Sunday with fewer bag sales. This was also evidenced by the number of unsold bins of books. In August there were about 12 bins left over, in November closer to 18 bins. The unsold books are picked up by St. Vincent dePaul for their thrift shop sales.

Part of the sales total included \$1700 of books that were purchased by teachers and paid for by the Books4Schools Fund. There were 19 teachers, school librarians, and even a tutor attending the sale covering grades k-12,. We received one thank you letter that really touched me. It was a card where individual students wrote personal comments.

"Thank you so much for the great books! I can't wait to read them all!" "I love your warrior cats books!" The teacher wrote, "Dear Friends of Los Altos Library, Thank you so much for donating these incredible books to my class from the Books4Schools Program. I am a first year teacher so currently trying to expand my library. My kids were beyond thrilled! Thanks again, Emma Clark. (Ohlone School)

The sale receives funds for these books from the Books4Schools Fund. This is money donated by the community so that teachers can get free books for their classrooms. We are hoping to schedule our next sale for early February.

We are entering a period now of special sales in the library Ongoing area. The Thanksgiving sale is currently on, followed by Christmas and Chanuka books and then, in January, the extremely popular sale of discarded library magazines. This is an incredibly exhausting time for the whole Ongoing team led by Suzanne Epstein.

In addition to funding the programs in the library, we have started funding some of the family programs at the community center. These programs are run in the community center with funding from the Friends and participation by library staff. I believe they are well attended and very much appreciated.

Our donations continue to keep us very busy. We receive about 150 boxes of books every week. We are filling our space in the library to capacity and are using all the volunteers that come to us. It's rewarding and exhausting! The coffee shop is still on hold, waiting for both the mask mandate to end, and for me to find some time to be able to restart it.