



The Library Connection online newsletter provides the public with information about upcoming events, major programs and other news of the City of San Diego Public Library. Anyone can sign up for this free monthly email announcement by visiting the Library on the City's web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library> and clicking on "News & Events."

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## Revamped Web Site Offers Easier Access for the Public

The Library has revamped its Web homepage to offer easier access to information for the public. This is among several technology-related improvements that the Library has recently completed to better serve patrons.

"Before the changes, much of the Library wealth of online information was buried deep in the Web site and often proved difficult to find," said City Library Director Anna Tatár. "Now the new homepage offers many more links making the content easier to discover and providing better service to the public."

The new homepage includes "Quick Links" to popular pages, easy access to the Library catalog, links to hours and locations of all City libraries, a news and events area, and a section with recommended reading. There is also a "How Do I..." section with links to information about a variety of Library services.

The Library's Web pages are among the most popular on the City's site. In fiscal year 2003, the Library Web pages had 196,925 unique visitors and an average of more than 2,700 visits per day. The Library's Web pages has shown dramatic traffic growth – up 79 percent in the recent fiscal year from the previous year. More than 2 million page views have been provided to San Diego citizens, library users, and others during this fiscal year.

The Library has completed several other recent technology-related improvements. A revolving calendar of events on the Web page provides up-to-date information about activities at the Central Library and its 34 branches. Also, free wireless Internet access is now available at eight Library locations, with plans to provide the service system wide.

In addition, the Library offers computer access for people with disabilities, information about new and expanded City libraries, a monthly online newsletter, and adult workshops that focus on technologies that children are using in school and at home.

The Library can be found on the City's Web site at [www.sandiego.gov/public-library](http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library).

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## Summer Reading Program Still Sizzlin'

This summer, reading has never been hotter! The Library's Summer Reading Program for children and teens continues through the month of July. Summer is the perfect time to pick up a book and continue to improve reading skills. And if that isn't enough of an incentive, participants can receive great special prizes.

For children up to 12 years old, the theme of the program is "Go for the Gold: Read." Kids who read 10 books will receive special prizes, including a sports visor, Pizza Hut coupons and free admission to the San Diego Aerospace Museum, San Diego Hall of Champions and San Diego Natural History Museum. The program's theme for teens is "Exercise Your Mind: Read." Participants in grades 7-12 can receive prizes for reading books or writing short reviews of library materials and teen programs.

The Library began the annual Summer Reading Program in 1924 to keep children and teens reading, learning and improving their reading skills and stretching their imaginations during the summer. Reading improves literacy and helps students do better in school. Last year, nearly 26,000 children and teens enrolled in the program. More than 40,000 attended program events. For details about the free program, contact or visit your local library.





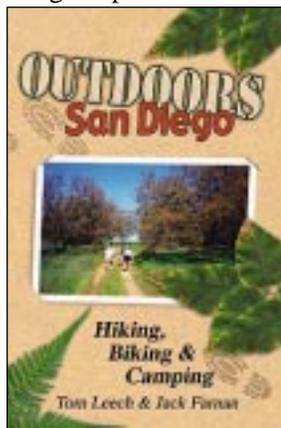
In observance of Independence Day, all City libraries will be closed on **Sunday, July 4** and **Monday, July 5**. Book drops will remain open as a convenience for patrons to return books and other libraries materials.

### Exhibits and Tours to Celebrate 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary

Several free exhibits now on display at the Central Library celebrate the facility's 50<sup>th</sup> anniversary. Special behind-the-scenes tours are also being conducted in July. One unique exhibit includes a series of 27 photographs showing a step-by-step process of demolishing the old Carnegie Library and constructing the current facility. Other displays take a nostalgic look at the 1950s with photos and memorabilia. The Central Library is located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. For more information about exhibits and tours, visit the Library's Web site at [www.sandiego.gov/public-library](http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library) or call 619-236-5800.

### Writer to Discuss Book About Local Outdoors

Tom Leech, co-author of "Outdoors San Diego: Hiking, Biking & Camping," will discuss and sign copies of his book on July 10 at the Mission Valley Branch. The book incorporates many "Outdoors Forum" articles from *San Diego Magazine*, where Leech is an editor. The guidebook features 168 hiking locales, 30 bike tours, and dozens of public and private campgrounds. Special features include quotes about nature from great writers, quizzes about our many parks and preserves, places to take the kids (or man's best friend) and get them started outdoors, locales for combining San Diego history with nature, where to take in those great views. The event will begin at 1 p.m. The Mission Valley Branch is located at 2123 Fenton Parkway. Call 858-573-5007 for more information.



### Hours for Central Library to Change July 12

Central Library to be Open 52 Hours Each Week Effective Monday, July 12, the Central Library will have a new schedule of hours of service for the public. The facility will be open to the public a total of 52 hours each week. The new hours are: **Monday and Wednesday:** Noon to 8 p.m.; **Tuesday, Thursday, Friday and Saturday:** 9:30 a.m. to 5:30 p.m.; and **Sunday:** 1 to 5 p.m. This is a reduction in service hours due to fiscal constraints facing the City of San Diego. There will be no changes to service hours at the City's 34 branch libraries.

## Coming Attractions



Each month the Library presents a variety of films, many of which are independent or foreign films that are not widely distributed. Others are classic, family-friendly movies.

July 10: "**Toy Story**" (1995) – This Disney film answers the question: What do toys do when they're not being played with? San Carlos, 10 a.m.

July 12: "**Thirst**" (2004) – A documentary about conflict over the use of water. See story on page 3 for more information. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.

July 17: "**Snow White and the Seven Dwarfs**" (1937) – Disney classic based on a Grimm fairy tale. San Carlos, 10 a.m.

July 18: "**Last Man Standing**" (2004) – A documentary that looks at politics, Texas style. See story on page 3 for more information. Central Library, 2 p.m.

July 19: "**Bubba Ho-Tep**" (2002) – Elvis Presley is alive and well, living in a small Texas nursing home with another man who claims to be John F. Kennedy. Central Library, 6:30 p.m.

July 25: "**Kill Me Tender**" (2003) – Maribel finds it hard to choose between love and money when she aspires for both in this tragic comedy. In Spanish with English subtitles, this film was originally titled "Haz Conmigo lo que Quieras." Central Library, 2 p.m.

July 30: "**Road to Singapore**" (1940) – One of the Bob Hope, Bing Crosby and Dorothy Lamour comedy films. Mission Valley, 7 p.m.

July 31: "**101 Dalmatians**" (1961) – A Disney animated classic that spawned the 1996 live-action remake. San Carlos, 10 a.m.

### Free Genealogy Seminar at Central Library to Assist in Researching Family Trees

The Library and the San Diego Genealogical Society will present a special workshop entitled "Beginning Your Family Search" on Saturday, July 17 from 2 to 4 p.m. in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, 820 E St. Conducted by Elaine Foulger and Phyllis Newton of the San Diego Genealogical Society, the free workshop will assist people interested in researching their family trees. Reservations are not required. Besides being an introduction into genealogy, the workshop will also provide details about resources at the Library that can assist researchers. The Central Library features a Genealogy Room and additional areas that contain historical records, surname information and other materials of genealogical interest. For information, call 619-236-5834.



*A protest outside Stockton City Hall before a city council vote on privatizing Stockton's water system from the film "Thirst."*

## Central Library to Present Two POV Documentary Films in July

The Central Library will host two special documentary presentations in July. On July 12, the Library will screen "Thirst" and on July 18 it will show "Last Man Standing." Both documentaries are part of the POV series, PBS' annual award-winning showcase for independent non-fiction films.

Focusing on one of the 21st century's greatest issues, "Thirst" is a piercing look at the conflict between public stewardship and private profit, where activists claim that water is a human right and corporations declare it a commodity. Global corporations are rapidly buying up local water supplies, and communities face losing control of one of their most precious resources. Looking at tensions in Bolivia, India and Stockton, Calif., "Thirst" reveals how water is becoming the catalyst for explosive community resistance to globalization. Previous productions by filmmakers Deborah Kaufman and Alan Snitow include "Secrets of Silicon Valley" and "Blacks and Jews." There will be a discussion after the screening. "Thirst" will be shown Monday, July 12 at 6:30 p.m. The San Diego County Water Authority is a co-sponsor of the screening.

"Last Man Standing" takes a look at politics, Texas style. Asking what the politics are that launched George W. Bush to national office, award-winning filmmaker Paul Stekler takes his camera to the Lone Star State for a lively, behind-the-scenes look at a pair of 2002 elections — one for state representative in a district that includes Lyndon Johnson's hometown, and a polarizing race for governor. Prominent Texans, including Bush strategist Karl Rove, former Gov. Ann Richards, President Clinton appointees Henry Cisneros and Paul Begala, and writer Molly Ivins shed light on the changing political landscape. In the end, "Last Man Standing" shows how politics in Texas may have become the blueprint for Washington. The film can be seen Sunday, July 18 at 2 p.m.

Both "Thirst" and "Last Man Standing" will be shown in the third floor auditorium of the Central Library, located at 820 E St. in downtown San Diego. Both events are free to the public.

## Marie Giordano to Discuss, Sign New Novel "I Love You Like a Tomato"

San Diego author Marie Giordano will discuss her new novel "I Love You Like a Tomato" on July 15 at the Mission Hills Branch. Giordano has authored more than 30 works of nonfiction, children's books and poetry under the names Marie Chapian and Marie Jordan. "I Love You Like a Tomato" is her first novel. She currently teaches creative writing and poetry at Mira Costa College.

"I Love You Like a Tomato" takes place in Minneapolis in the 1950s and focuses on an Italian immigrant family. ChiChi Maggiordino will do anything to get God's attention. She will hold her breath, stand on tiptoe for an hour, walk a mile backward, climb all stairs on her knees... anything. When her grandmother teaches her how to use the Evil Eye, telling her it's how Jesus Christ made his miracles and how the Italians got rid of Mussolini, ChiChi realizes it's what her prayers have been missing.

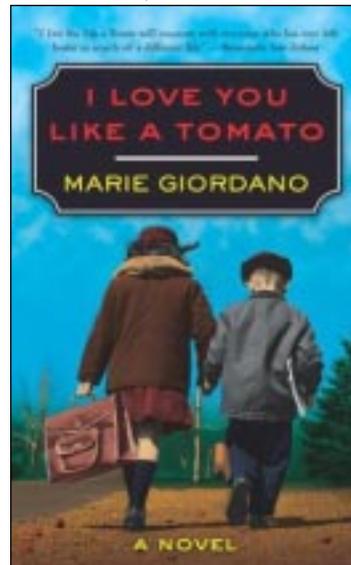
Now she can get started on the business of making her mother happier by helping her find love, and healing her brother's weak lungs. It's not until she meets two Italian dwarves, and they teach her of the ancient clown tradition of commedia dell'arte, that she comes to understand that in

order to make everyone else happy, she herself must be happy.

On May 22, "I Love You Like a Tomato" received the first place fiction prize at the San Diego Book Awards ceremony.

The event will take place at 7 p.m. at the Mission Hills Branch, 925 W. Washington St.

For more information, call (619) 692-4910. Copies of the book will be available for purchase and signing.



*Marie Giordano*

### Even More Great Events and Programs!

For the very latest information about Library events, exhibits, activities and other programs, visit your local library or check out the Library on the City's web site at <http://www.sandiego.gov/public-library>.

