

# Library abuzz with activities for everyone

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**2nd Floor, Georgetown Public Library, 402 W. Eighth St.**

of the Georgetown Public Library  
Georgetown, TX

On a rainy Sunday afternoon earlier this month, the children's room at the Georgetown Public Library buzzed with activity.

A mom sat crossed-legged on the floor in the Easy Fiction section reading to her two young sons. Near the Wii, a tween thumbed through one last book to earn the privilege to play the video game Mario Kart.

Little ones in our new Family Place area whipped up creative delights in the play kitchen while the Jeep — once powered by gasoline but now fueled by pure imagination — transported kids to faraway destinations.

Young readers came looking for Peter Rabbit and to retrace Sacagawea's footsteps and with fingers crossed found that selections from wildly popular series like Mary Pope Osborne's *The Magic Tree House* and Jeff Kinney's *Diary of a Wimpy Kid* had been checked in.

"Joyous chaos" is how one library assistant describes the scenes that unfold daily in the safari-themed room overseen by children's librarian Bethni King.

We rely on parents to help us keep the children's room volume at a respectful level. We sometimes have to step in and ask kids to turn it down, but ours is by no means a shushing library.

We recognize some patrons see that as a bad thing.

"It's not like it was when I was a kid. I thought libraries were supposed to be quiet," a patron commented to circu-



## BIBLIOFILES

Joyce May

tion desk staff as the laughter and squeals spilled over into the lobby.

It's a delicate tightrope to walk when some patrons want more from their library and others expect less.

Libraries have been grappling with the volume issue for the past several years as they seek ways to entice young readers and strive to meet the needs of their communities by expanding services and programming beyond that of a traditional library.

Our first floor, home to our children and teen areas as well as our public computer section and our in-house café, the Red Poppy Coffee Co., is by far the most heavily trafficked and therefore tends to be the noisiest.

We direct patrons seeking quieter spaces for study or contemplation to our second floor where study rooms, work counters and tucked-away study tables can offer a bit more tranquility.

We do our best to welcome all of the community in, and our building is a busy place.

Happenings last week, which was spring break for many youngsters, brought extra energy to our building.

Mother Goose made a visit

## A Few Upcoming Library Events

March 5-30 Shari Anderson: Seasons Come and Seasons Go exhibit

March 18 Doctors Without Borders: Forced From Home exhibit

March 18-April 17 Whoever Saves a Single Life: Rescuers of Jews During the Holocaust exhibit

March 23 Adultish: Tap into Spring

March 25 1 p.m. Shari Anderson artist reception

March 28-30 Spring Party after each morning storytime

April 3-12 GISD Annual Student Art Exhibit (K-12)

April 4 5:30-7:30 p.m. GISD Students artist reception

April 15-May 17 Sun City Photography Club: In Perspective exhibit

April 15 2 p.m. Live Music at the Library: Jerry Barlow

April 17 7 p.m. Book Discussion: Flight Behavior

April 20 6:30 p.m. Adultish: Hoppy Hour

April 23 7 p.m. Book Discussion: Flight Behavior

April 25 Yoga Storytime with Ms. Kalena

April 28 1 p.m. Tweens: Villain Academy

April 30 7 p.m. Monarch Butterflies: Threats and What You Can Do to Help

Consult the Library Events Calendar at library.georgetown.org for more information about these and other library programs.

and Matt Sandbank brought his one-man traveling shadow puppet theater to entertain and delight. Lego Day and our Tween Supersmash Bros tournament also drew in crowds.

Sunday offered another whirlwind of activity as the library hosted, in partnership with Congregation Havurah Shalom, the opening of the "Whoever Saves a Single Life" exhibit as well as a musical presentation by the Austin Flute Project, and the Doc-

tors Without Borders "Forced From Home" travelling exhibit.

As our director, Eric Lashley, is fond of saying, "If the parking lot is full, we're having a good day at the library."

We've been having a lot of good days lately, and we hope you will join us for the 'joyous chaos' — or, if you prefer, a little peace and quiet.

Until next time, happy reading!

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 512-863-7690 Ron Heidebrecht, Pastor

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