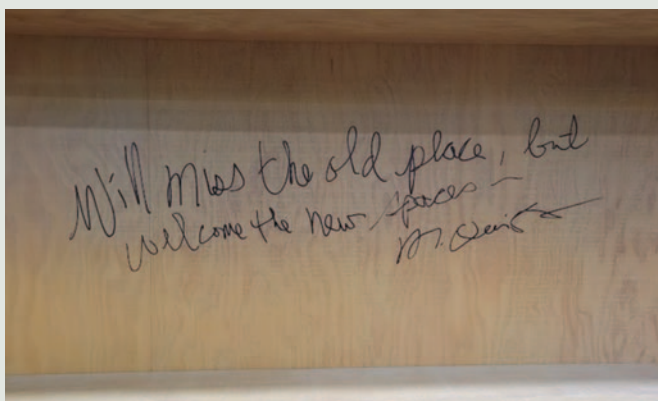
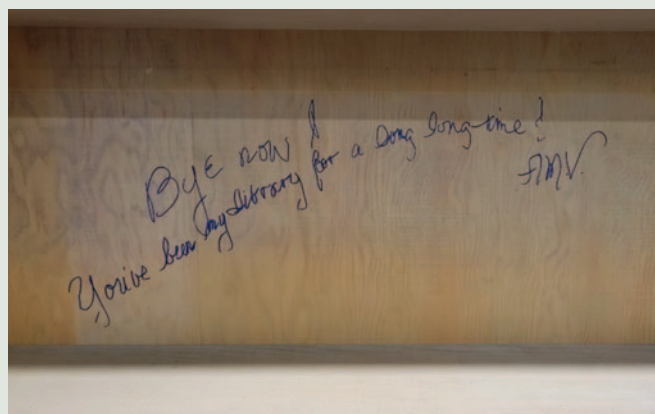


2024 FOND FAREWELL EVENT

On Friday, January 5, the community of Sierra Madre was invited back into the empty Library at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. It was an opportunity to not only say but write or draw their farewells to the current Library on the 1955 wooden shelving that will not be utilized in the renovated building.

This unique event could not have taken place without the Friends of the Library who contributed volunteers and refreshments and the Library Foundation!

Attendees were encouraged to pick up a marker and share their memories, thoughts, and goodbyes to these warped, splintered shelves while observing the very empty Library. 110 attended as well as staff, Friends of the Library, and Library Foundation members.



ONE BOOK ONE CITY FOR FEBRUARY

This year's One Book One City selection is *Humankind: A Hopeful History* by Rutger Bregman. Rutger Bregman is a historian and an author, currently living in Holland. His work has been featured in *The Washington Post*, *The Guardian* and the BBC. He has been described by *The Guardian* as the "Dutch wunderkind of new ideas" and by TED Talks as "one of Europe's most prominent young thinkers." *Humankind: A Hopeful History* takes a multi-disciplinary approach, drawing from the findings of history, economics, psychology, biology, anthropology and archaeology and presents ideas on how to provide a better future. According to Bregman, "So what is this radical idea? That most people, deep down, are pretty decent."

Read, discover, and connect throughout the month of February featuring these engaging themed programs that are free and fun for the whole family:

KINDNESS BOOK

Available for in-library checkout in February. Write about the most memorable act of kindness that you have ever received. This book will become a part of the Library collection.

GOODWILL INTENTIONS

All month long in the Library, write your goodwill or kindness intentions and add to our paper daisy chain.

VALENTINE'S DAY CARD MAKING

On **Saturday, February 3** from 1:00 – 4:00 p.m. create decorative Valentine Cards for Children's Hospital Los Angeles. Meet up at the Episcopal Church of the Ascension: Hawks Hall located at 25 East Laurel Avenue. No registration required. While supplies last.

DIFFERENT DONATION DRIVES EACH WEEK IN FEBRUARY

- **Free Animal Doctor Towel Drive** @ Temporary Library
 - Thursday, February 1 – Saturday, February 10
 - New or used towels for local animal rescue
- **Shoes That Fit Athletic Shoe Drive** @ Temporary Library
 - Monday, February 12 to Saturday, February 17
 - New, in box athletic kids shoes of various sizes.
- **Foothill Unity Clothing and Toiletries Drive** @ Temporary Library
 - Tuesday, February 20 to Saturday, February 24
 - Jackets, socks, razors, mini shampoos/conditioners, mini lotions, hotel soaps, toothbrushes, mini toothpaste, mini deodorants
- **Foothill Unity Food Drive** @ Temporary Library
 - Monday, February 26 to Saturday, March 2
 - Rice, beans, spaghetti/pasta, hamburger/tuna helper, cereal, crackers, zip-top bags, gallon/quart, plastic grocery bags, spam, vienna sausages, small canned hams, beef stew in microwave bowls, dry ramen noodle packs, small fruit cans, shelf milk, capri juices, hot chocolate, small chips, assorted cheese, crackers/individual saltine packs, applesauce cups, mac and cheese bowls, canned fruit, canned vegetables, canned hearty soup, canned baked beans, canned tuna, canned chicken, canned spaghetti sauce.

INTERGENERATIONAL STORYTIME

Sunnyside Preschool is having a special Storytime with the Library at the Kensington with its residents! This event is not open to the public.

'OFF THE PAGE' READING OF IN THE GARDEN OF THE SELFISH GIANT

On **Monday, February 12** at 7:00 p.m. One Book One City presents a staged reading of *In the Garden of the Selfish Giant* by Sandra Fenichel Asher in collaboration with Sierra Madre Playhouse's 'OFF THE PAGE.' Event will be held at the Playhouse 87 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.

AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DONATION/DRIVE

Help save a life on **Wednesday, February 14** from 12:00 - 6:00 p.m. The American Red Cross Blood Donation vehicle will be parked in the Sierra Madre Public Library's parking lot at 350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Preregistration is recommended but not required.

DINNER WITH THE HUMAN LIBRARY

Break bread with human books **Saturday, February 24** from 5:00 - 7:00 p.m. at the Hart Park House. Have a courageous conversation with someone of a unique life experience while enjoying a dinner from local restaurant Corfu. Every human book represents a group in society that is often subjected to prejudice, stigmatization or discrimination because of their lifestyle, diagnosis, belief, disability, social status, or ethnic origin. Registration is free but limited space is available.

This event is being held at the Hart Park House, 222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. Register on Eventbrite or call the Library at 626-355-7186. Special thanks to the Sierra Madre Community Foundation for helping to provide for this event.

SIERRA MADRE 2030 — WHAT SHALL WE BUILD TOGETHER?

Come to the City Council Chambers 232 W. Sierra Madre Blvd on **Wednesday, February 28** at 6:00 p.m. for an inspirational one-hour

program based on the ideas of this year's Sierra Madre One Book One City book *Humankind: A Hopeful History* by Rutger Bregman. Attendees will see Bregman's TED Talk which presents the key idea of his book: we've all been programmed by the news media and a misreading of history to think that human beings are bad and evil. What if that's a myth? What if we are hardwired for kindness, geared toward cooperation, with a genetic bias for altruistic community building?

One Book One City Committee Member Rich Procter will host a discussion about what kind of city Sierra Madre can become if we proceed from this radical new premise. What do we want? How can we come together to create it?

SPECIAL THANKS to the Friends of the Sierra Madre Public Library, the Sierra Madre Community Foundation, and to the One Book One City Committee Members: Catherine Addé, Rich Procter, Jane Zamanzadeh, Julie Imahara, Marta Capoccia, Leigh Gluck, and Leila Regan.

SPECIAL EVENTS

COMMUNITY MOSAIC ART

Celebrate **all month long** with a sticker art project the whole family will enjoy. Work on it as much or as little as you'd like during your Library visits in February. No registration required.

WALK THIS WAY: A STORY ADVENTURE

Stretch your legs at Memorial Park while engaging in some early literacy, with a new picture book featured each month. Beginning on **Thursday, February 1** you can read *The Big Umbrella* by Amy June Bates. This title is sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library.

IN-N-OUT BURGER'S COVER TO COVER READING PROGRAM

Who loves In-N-Out Burgers? Do you also love books? In-N-Out's Cover to Cover Reading Program is back for Kids, Ages 4 - 12 years old and ends on Saturday, February 10. Stop by the Library to pick up your reading log.

WEEKLY PROGRAMS

BABY RHYME TIME AT SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Join us at the Temporary Sierra Madre Public Library for Baby Rhyme Time on **Mondays at 9:00 a.m.** Baby Rhyme Time is for families with little ones from Birth to Age 2. Children will engage with songs, stories, and more. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 for more information. No registration required.

PRESCHOOL STORYTIME AT SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY

Preschool Storytime happens in the Children's Room at the Temporary Sierra Madre Public Library on **Mondays at 10:00 a.m.** Kids, Ages 3-5, can engage with stories, songs, and more. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 for more information. No registration required.

MONTHLY PROGRAMS

TAILS AND TALES

On **Thursday, February 8** from 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. school age children will get the chance to improve their reading skills by reading a book to a therapy dog in the Library.

BOARD LIBRARY TEENS

Calling all teens! Help the Library plan appropriate teen events while serving your community. Join the Board Library Teens and volunteer for service hours on **Wednesday, February 14** and **Wednesday, February 28** at 4:00 p.m.

ZOOM THIRD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB

On **Thursday, February 15** at 11:00 a.m. the book we are discussing on Zoom is the One Book One City selection: *Humankind: A Hopeful History* by Rutger Bregman. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

DIGITAL SERVICES MEET AND GREET

On **Saturday, February 17** from 12:00 – 2:00 p.m. learn all about our free digital services available with your library card.

PAJAMA STORYTIME

On **Wednesday, February 21** at 7:00 p.m. tune in on Zoom for a live Bedtime Storytime! We'll have a scavenger hunt, show and tell, sing songs, and of course listen to some stories. Call the Library at 626-355-7186 to register.

SNOWFLAKE COMMUNITY GATHERING

On Saturday, December 2, the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library held their second annual Snowflake Community Gathering. We hosted parents, children of all ages, grandparents, and interested townspeople who wanted to help support the Sierra Madre Public Library. There were areas where all participants could decorate cookies, make their own snowflakes, get their faces painted by one of our own talented artists, meet and take pictures with some of the Sierra Madre Rose Parade Princesses and the Snowflake Princess, make a snowflake donation from our special tree, and purchase balloons that held wonderful gift certificates! There were refreshments, music, and a chance to meet others in town who support the Friends of the Library in so many different ways.

We had several **Business Sponsors** who helped to support this event: The Only Place in Town; Poppycake; The Collective Co-op, Sierra Madre; Nano's Restaurant; Raffi's Catering; Savor the Flavor; Century 21 Sierra Madre; and E. Waldo Ward. **Individual Sponsors:** Andy & Julie Bencosme, Susan Gallagher, Janet & Keith Gillespie, Jeanne Martin, John & Margaret Quigley, Vicky Ryan, Dr. Diane Sands, Nancy Beckham, Bonnie Diener, Dr. Barry & Leslie Ziff, and the Sierra Madre Library Board of Trustees. **Our Snowflake Tree Donors:** Jane Zamanzadeh, Eric Moomjean, Iris Beauchamp, Tzvetelin Petrov, Shannon King & Frank Moore, Barbie Bevington, and Joe Capoccia.

A **special thanks to our wonderful committee** who coordinated the entire event: Leslie Ziff, Beth Kerns, Jeanne Martin, Vicky Ryan, and Susan Gallagher. We are proud to announce that the Snowflake Gathering raised over **\$1,200** to help the Friends of The Library in supporting the materials our Library will need for this coming year's programs and supplies.

See you next year!!

BEST USED BOOK SALE

The Best Used Book Sale will be held on **Friday, February 2** from 3:00-7:00 p.m. and **Saturday, February 3** from 10:00 a.m.-2:00 p.m. It will be held on the parking lot behind the Temporary Library at 350 West Sierra Madre Blvd. Featured will be a selection of vintage books, including a complete 11-volume set of *The Story of Civilization* by Will and Ariel Durant, several signed first editions, and other antique collectibles. Also included will be newer best sellers, thrillers and non-fiction titles with our "Table Books." As always, Bargain Books will be priced at only \$1.00 each and small paperbacks 5/\$1.00. Children's titles are 50 cents-\$5.00 with many Young Adult books available this time.

Our **\$5.00 BAG SALE** will take place on **SATURDAY**. Buy a large grocery bag for \$5.00 and fill it with any of our Bargain Books! All proceeds from the Friends sale will be used for programs, acquisitions, and services of our Library. See you there!

PARTNERS PROGRAM

Partners support the Library with an annual contribution at the **Partners (\$100 or more) Level; Silver (\$250 or more) Level; or Gold (\$500 or more) Level**. This is the time of the year when folks could resolve to become Partners of the Sierra Madre Library if they have not done so yet.

We would like to thank those Partners who renewed their membership this past month: Olivia Avila, Bruce & Joy Jones, Alejandro Komai, Jeanne Martin, and Gurdon Miller & Catriona Shafer.

If you would like to become a Partner, please mail your donation to Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, Partners Program, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. Kindly write "Partners" in the memo line and indicate your level of commitment.

Happy 2024 to all and thank you for your continued support!

GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library would like to thank Helen Gronquist for her generous donation given to us in December.

Monies in the General Fund are used to purchase and replenish books, software, and other resource items and to fund the Library's many outreach programs. If you would like to make a tax-exempt donation to this fund, go on-line or write "General Fund" on the memo-line and mail your check to Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025.

We are grateful for your support!

LIBRARY CLOSED MONDAY, FEBRUARY 19

Holiday Observance: The Library will be closed on **Monday, February 19** for President's Day. We will reopen for services **Tuesday, February 20** at 11:00 a.m.

READER'S REVIEW



This month's review is by **Catherine Addé**

Humankind: A Hopeful History

By Rutger Bregman

Gentle readers – this is the choice from Sierra Madre Library's 'One Book One City' annual event. Every February, in case you didn't know, there are a myriad of programs that

enhance the theme of the chosen book that we read together as a city.

As I'm still reading it, I've not a finished review just yet – however I have to say it has grabbed me from the start. This young, best-selling author, has done an incredible amount of research to back up his premise: that we humans are hard wired to be helpful, good and kind to one another. He turns the notion on its head that we are all selfish and unkind.

My favourite chapter so far is about the real-life proof he found of youngsters stranded on an island that were helpful to one another, unlike the classic: 'Lord of the Flies' story where quite the opposite occurred. Who can forget the true events of Christmas in 1914, when soldiers on the western front laid down their arms for an informal 'kick about' – not quite a soccer match – but also enjoyed caroling and reveling on the frozen ground, trying to forget that during this war, they were supposed to be killing each other.

While I am still reading, I cannot say it any better than this Goodreads review:

"If one basic principle has served as the bedrock of bestselling author Rutger Bregman's thinking, it is that every progressive idea — whether it was the abolition of slavery, the advent of democracy, women's suffrage, or the ratification of marriage equality — was once considered radical and dangerous by the mainstream opinion of its time. With Humankind, he brings that mentality to bear against one of our most entrenched ideas: namely, that human beings are by nature selfish and self-interested.

By providing a new historical perspective of the last 200,000 years of human history, Bregman sets out to prove that we are in fact evolutionarily wired for cooperation rather than competition, and that our instinct to trust each other has a firm evolutionary basis going back to the beginning of Homo sapiens. Bregman systematically debunks our understanding of the Milgram electrical-shock experiment, the Zimbardo prison experiment, and the Kitty Genovese "bystander effect."

In place of these, he offers little-known true stories: the tale of twin brothers on opposing sides of apartheid in South Africa who came together with Nelson Mandela to create peace; a group of six shipwrecked children who survived for a year and a half on a deserted island by working together; a study done after World War II that found that as few as 15% of American soldiers were actually capable of firing at the enemy.

The ultimate goal of Humankind is to demonstrate that while neither capitalism nor communism has on its own been proven to be a workable social system, there is a third option: giving "citizens and professionals the means (left) to make their own choices (right)." Reorienting our thinking toward positive and high expectations of our fellow man, Bregman argues, will reap lasting success. Bregman presents this idea with his signature wit and frankness, once again making history, social science and economic theory accessible and enjoyable for lay readers."

Humankind is available at the temporary Library location now – and it is my hope that you'll be able to participate in the many events the committee has in store for you. Including a heartwarming 'Off the Page' reading at the Sierra Madre Playhouse with a feel-good story called: "In the Garden of the Selfish Giant" as well as enjoying this remarkable work, of course. Excuse me while I get back to reading it!

CALL # STATUS: 128 BERGMAN NONFICTION

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



FEBRUARY CALENDAR

EVERY MONDAY 9:00 A.M.	BABY RHYME TIME AT TEMPORARY LIBRARY	FEBRUARY 12 7:00 P.M.	OFF THE PAGE STAGED READING AT THE PLAYHOUSE
EVERY MONDAY 10:00 A.M.	STORYTIME AT TEMPORARY LIBRARY	FEBRUARY 14 12 NOON	AMERICAN RED CROSS BLOOD DONATION
FEBRUARY 1-10	KINDNESS DONATION DRIVE — TOWELS	FEBRUARY 14 4:00 P.M.	BOARD LIBRARY TEENS
FEBRUARY 1-29	ONE BOOK ONE CITY PROGRAMS/EVENTS	FEBRUARY 15 11:00 A.M.	ZOOM 3 RD THURSDAY BOOK CLUB
FEBRUARY 1-29	KINDNESS BOOK	FEBRUARY 17 12 NOON	DIGITAL SERVICES MEET & GREET
FEBRUARY 1-29	GOODWILL INTENTIONS	FEBRUARY 19 LIBRARY CLOSED	PRESIDENT'S DAY HOLIDAY
FEBRUARY 1-29	COMMUNITY MOSAIC ART	FEBRUARY 20-24	KINDNESS DONATION DRIVE — CLOTHING
FEBRUARY 1-29	WALK THIS WAY: A STORY ADVENTURE	FEBRUARY 21 7:00 P.M.	PAJAMA STORYTIME
FEBRUARY 2 3:00-7:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE	FEBRUARY 21 7:00 P.M.	FRIENDS BOARD MEETING
FEBRUARY 3 10:00 A.M.-2:00 P.M.	BEST USED BOOK SALE	FEBRUARY 24 5:00 P.M.	DINNER WITH THE HUMAN LIBRARY
FEBRUARY 3 1:00 P.M.	CRAFT IT!: VALENTINE CARD MAKING	FEBRUARY 26-MARCH 2	KINDNESS DONATION DRIVE — FOOD
FEBRUARY 8 3:30 P.M.	TAILS & TALES	FEBRUARY 26 5:00 P.M.	LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING
FEBRUARY 10	IN-N-OUT COVER TO COVER READING PROGRAM <u>ENDS</u>	FEBRUARY 28 4:00 P.M.	BOARD LIBRARY TEENS
FEBRUARY 12-17	KINDNESS DONATION DRIVE — ATHLETIC SHOES	FEBRUARY 28 6:00 P.M.	SIERRA MADRE 2030

Read, Discover, Connect @ Sierra Madre Public Library

LIBRARY HOURS

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
 Thursdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Closed Fridays, Sundays and Holidays

Sierra Madre Public Library
 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
 Sierra Madre (626) 355-7186
 TEXT (626) 662-1254
www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library/

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