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Stuffed Animal Slumber Party at the Library

By Sophie Braccini



Stuffed animals read a bedtime story Photo Linda Waldroup

cute." Steiner was proud that the kids trusted the library with their stuffed animals. "I was not here the next morning for the pick-up, but the staff said that the parents were thrilled with the program," added Steiner.

The stuffed animal slumber party was a first in Moraga - one of the many new programs introduced by Steiner. "Sandy developed programming we'd never had," said Waldroup, "We began lapsit sessions (early literacy activities for babies and caregivers), toddler story time, and initiated activities like the Pizza Read-a-thon, the Stuffed Animal Sleepover, Wild Things, and the Royal Afternoon. She introduced Paws to Read here. She collaborated often with the Orinda and Lafayette children's programs to develop companion programming for Lamorinda Reads such as a multicultural fair. On the county level, she was very involved in the development of the children's collections and the Summer Reading Program. She recruited the Lion Dancers for Chinese New Year. Sandy also visited the local public schools regularly. She enthusiastically shared books in an effort to entice kids to the library."

Steiner, who was an elementary school teacher before earning a Masters of Library Science, said that one of her favorite jobs was visiting the elementary schools and bringing a bit of the library into the classes. "I am so impressed at how active the Moraga library is and how well used it is," she added, "It is a vital part of the community."

Steiner will leave the library at the end of August. The long time Moraga resident plans to travel, babysit her new twin grandchildren, garden and, of course, read. For a last chance to meet her, participate in the August children's program at the library - the Pizza Read-a-thon for families on Tuesday August 17th, from 6:00-7:00 p.m. Registration begins August 3rd.

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