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Burton Valley Book Sale Proceeds Benefit Library

By Cathy Tyson

After working hard to organize, collect, and re-sell donated books at the Bargain Book Bonanza, Carroll Martin's combined fourth- and fifth -grade class at Burton Valley Elementary School visited the Lafayette Library and Learning Center to donate their proceeds to Senior Community Library Manager Susan Weaver. The class sold gently used books to their fellow students, raising \$1,000 that will be used to buy an early literacy station for kids two to 10 years old with 56 top-rated educational software programs and touch screen capability. Last year the students made enough from the event to purchase a telescope for the Library.

"Thank you from the bottom of my heart; we've wanted this for many, many years. We've just never been able to afford it," said Weaver, explaining that their gift will be especially useful for younger kids with special needs or learning disabilities.

Everyone pitched in to make it a very special field trip for the students: Mona Amanat of the Bookmark Cafe generously donated snacks for all, and Friends of the Library gave each student a gift certificate for their Friends Corner Book Shop.

Mike Gilson, President of the Foundation Trustees had some words of wisdom for the students: "This is more than just a big library with wonderful books; it's a place where lots and lots of people come to learn. We hope all of you come here often."

Thanking the kids for their hard work, Kathy Merchant, Executive Director of the Foundation, nudged them to come for a very special event on June 5 where they can put their telescope to good use. "It's incredible - the Transit of Venus." Experts from the Mt. Diablo Astronomical Society will be in attendance with extra telescopes. The students and anyone who's interested should consider attending since the next time this astrological event happens will be in 800 years.

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