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U.S. DEPARTMENT OF HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES Substance Abuse and Mental Health Services Administration www.samhsa.cov



## **Library** from front page

city chooses its own text. The El Segundo Public Library jumped on the bandwagon in 2003, and other than a brief hiatus in 2008, has sponsored the program every year.

"This is really the first non-classic novel that we've decided to try out, but it has such a human interest element and has had incredibly positive feedback from other libraries that had featured it," said Library Director Debra Brighton. *To Kill a Mockingbird* and *The Good Earth* were among the classic titles selected for previous El Segundo programs.

Simply reading the book is just one aspect of the program. Over the next several weeks, the library will host a series of events related to the novel, starting with a Barnes & Noble (1800 Rosecrans Avenue) BookFair from October 23-25. A kick-off will take place at the store's café on October 24, with a dog-themed story time presented by Library staff. During that weekend, a portion of book sale proceeds will be donated to the El Segundo Library. Customers must present a library voucher (available at 111 W. Mariposa Avenue) at the time of purchase.

Next up, Public Services Manager Ellen Cunningham and Senior Library Assistant Kimberlee Carter will run a lively discussion of *The Art of Racing in the Rain* on October 28 at 2 p.m. in the Library's Rose Garden Room. The two will do the same on October 29 at 6:30 p.m. in the Friends of the Library Room.

In a program highlight, residents will have the unique opportunity to meet the author himself (via Skype video conferencing technology in the Friends of the Library Room) on November 5 at 6:30 p.m. Stein will read excerpts from his book, talk about writing it, and field questions from attendees. One tidbit of note: The author originally came up with the idea for the novel after watching a film about Mongolia, where a number of people believe dogs will be reincarnated next as humans. Los Angeles-born and Seattle-raised, Stein worked as a documentary filmmaker before writing his first novel in 1998. The Art of Racing in the Rain is his third book. On November 8 at 2 p.m., local race car drivers will park their hot rods in front of the Library where they will talk about their racing careers. And finally, to cap off the "One City, One Book" festivities, Borders (Plaza El Segundo, 710 S. Sepulveda Boulevard) will host the "Love on 4 Paws, Animal Assisted Therapy" program on November 14 at 2 p.m. Attendees will be able to meet dogs and listen to volunteers discuss the comfort and joy these animals bring to hospital patients. In past years, anywhere between 100 and 150 people have typically checked out El Segundo's chosen text during "One City, One Book," but Brighton hopes for even more readers this year given the two bookstore events, Stein's participation and increased library traffic in general. "We had about 30,000 to 40,000 more patrons the past year from people using the library to look for jobs, to check out books rather than buying them, and to use our free Internet service," said Brighton. For more information about "One City, One Book," call 310-524-2722.

## IT'S THAT TIME AGAIN! HERALD PUBLICATIONS' 4<sup>th</sup> ANNUAL HALLOWEEN COLORING CONTEST!

Ages 12 years and under are welcome to enter. Use your creative talent to color the Halloween picture. When finished, please mail or drop off to: HERALD PUBLICATIONS, 312 E. Imperial Ave., El Segundo, CA 90245. Winner(s) will receive a surprise gift bag.

Deadline for entries: Monday, October 26, 2009



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