LIBRARY

Digital Debut

Library's "Digital Bookmobile," a 71-foot, 18-wheeler, that's a hightech update of the traditional bookmobile, toured the City in March.

Story and photos courtesy Library

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m usic}$, cameras and even television have gone digital, but many people are surprised to learn that library collections have gone digital as well. In March, the Los Angeles Public Library showcased its extensive downloadable electronic books, audiobooks, music and videos when its Digital Bookmobile visited the Central Library downtown and the Mid-Valley Regional Branch in North Hills.

The 74-foot, 18-wheel tractor-trailer's stops were part of a national tour designed to raise awareness of libraries' electronic resources. "We're excited to bring this high-tech update of the traditional bookmobile to L.A. and help people discover the Los Angeles Public Library's free downloadable collections," said City Librarian Martin Gomez, Club Member.

Inside the Digital Bookmobile, readers of all

ages can learn how to download digital material from the library through interactive demonstrations and high-definition instructional videos. A gadget gallery featuring iPod, Zune and Sony Readers helps visitors discover how best to download the library's electronic media on the

The vehicle is also equipped with broadband Internet-connected PCs, high-definition monitors, premium sound systems and a variety of portable devices, all of which help visitors explore the Los Angeles Public Library's download services. Interactive learning stations give visitors an opportunity to search the library's digital media collection, use mobile devises and sample digital books and more.

Patrons can take advantage of the Los Angeles Public Library's download service 24/7 by visiting the library's Website at www.lapl.org. From there, they can browse the growing collection of best-selling, new release, and classic



The Library's Digital Bookmobile sets up shop outside the Central Library downtown

titles, and check out digital titles with a valid library card. Once downloaded, digital titles can be enjoyed on a computer or transferred to supported portable devices. Many audio titles can also be burned to audio CD. At the end of the lending period, titles will automatically expire and are returned to the digital collection. There are never late fees or damaged items.

About the Digital Bookmobile

The Digital Bookmobile, developed inside a 74-foot, 18-wheel tractor-trailer, is a high-tech update of the traditional bookmobile that has served communities for decades. The one-of-akind community outreach vehicle creates an engaging download experience with the host

library's "Virtual Branch" download Website and digital collection of eBooks, audiobooks and more. The Digital Bookmobile is operated by OverDrive, which powers download Websites at more than 10,000 libraries worldwide. More information can be found at: www.digitalbookmobile.com

About the Los Angeles Public Library

The Los Angeles Public Library serves the largest population of any library in the country through its Central Library, 72 branch libraries, collection of more than six million books and other items, and its Website (www.lapl.org). These resources and its more than 18,000 public programs provide everyone with free and easy access to information and the opportunity for life-long learning.



Newsbriet

ZOO'S NEW BABY:

The Zoo is proud to announce the births of two rare Peninsular pronghorn twins. The pair has been pulled for hand rearing in the Zoo's nursery to ensure that they are given every opportunity to thrive.

On Feb. 26, two Peninsular pronghorns, one male and one female, were born. This is the third pair of pronghorn twins born at the L.A. Zoo, the other pairs were born in March 2008 and March 2009. So far, the L.A. Zoo is the only institution in the U.S. to breed this rare species. Native to Baja California Sur, Mexico, these graceful animals are mostly active at dawn and dusk.

This birth is a great leap for conservation efforts of this critically endangered species because one of the two fawns is female; the first female born in the United States. Breeding efforts in the United States have been hindered due to a lack of females. "Before this pair, we had two sets of twins born here, all males," explains Curator of Mammals Jeff Holland. "The only way the Peninsular Pronghorn Recovery Project (PPRP) could keep moving forward is if we got a female fawn." Hunting, cattle ranching and agriculture have resulted in the significant decrease of this species. Newborn

pronghorns take their first steps within 30 minutes of birth. By the time they are four days old, they can outrun humans. After just a week, fawns can run faster than dogs and



The Peninsular pronghorn twins. Photo courtesy of Tad Motoyama.

horseback riders over short distances. They are the second fastest land mammal and the fastest ungulate (hoofed mammal), clocking in at anywhere from 40 to 60 miles per hour. They can maintain this speed, without showing any sign of distress, for an hour or longer.

Typically, a pronghorn mother will have one or two fawns weighing in at around seven or eight pounds. When they reach adulthood, pronghorns weigh up to 125 pounds and reach a height of 35 inches. The females are usually 10 to 25 percent smaller then males.

The Zoo is partnered with the Vizcaino Desert Biosphere Reserve and the Mexican Government in the PPRP. Since 2000, the Zoo has provided both financial assistance as well as personnel support to the PPRP. The Zoo's breeding herd is a part of the Species Survival Plan for Peninsular pronghorns.