



**MAYOR**  
Oscar Leeser

**INTERIM  
CITY MANAGER**  
Cary Westin

**CITY COUNCIL**

**District 1**  
Brian Kennedy

**District 2**  
Dr. Josh Acevedo

**District 3**  
Cassandra Hernandez

**District 4**  
Joe Molinar

**District 5**  
Isabel Salcido

**District 6**  
Art Fierro

**District 7**  
Henry Rivera

**District 8**  
Chris Canales

**NEWS  
RELEASE**

02/ 15/ 2024

# Bestselling Children’s Book Author Visits El Paso Public Libraries

## Community Invited to Meet “Finding Gobi” Author Dion Leonard and His Dog, Gobi

**EL PASO, Texas** — The El Paso Public Libraries is excited to announce that internationally bestselling children’s book author and ultramarathon runner Dion Leonard and his canine best friend, Gobi, will be appearing at two branch libraries in February.

“The El Paso Public Libraries are excited to host a New York Times Best Selling author for our story time program,” said El Paso Public Libraries Director Norma Martinez. “We are very excited about being about to share this special story about home, friendship and determination with the children and parents in our community.”

Leonard will share his inspirational story to a wider audience including his ultra-marathon experiences and finding Gobi again after their powerful encounter in the desert. He will read from his children’s book, answer questions, and introduce Gobi during story time at the following branch libraries.

**Esperanza Acosta Moreno Branch Library**

12480 Pebble Hills  
5:30 p.m., Monday, February 19

**Sergio Troncoso Branch Library**

9321 Alameda  
4:30 p.m., Thursday, February 22

Both story time events are free and open to the public.

For more information on Dion Leonard’s visit or to learn more about the services and programs provided by the El Paso Public Libraries, visit [www.ElPasoLibrary.org](http://www.ElPasoLibrary.org).

**About Finding Gobi**

Finding Gobi is the miraculous true story of Dion Leonard, a seasoned ultramarathon runner who crosses paths with a stray dog while competing in a 155-mile race through the Gobi Desert in China. The lovable pup, who would later earn the name Gobi, proved that what she lacked in size, she more than made up for in heart, as she went step for step with Dion over the Tian Shan Mountains, across massive sand dunes, through yurt villages and the black sands of the Gobi Desert, keeping pace with him for nearly 80 miles.

###



Promoting **Transparent & Consistent Communication**  
Among All Members of the Community

**Media contact:** Rick Isaias  
Strategic Communications  
[isaiasra@elpasotexas.gov](mailto:isaiasra@elpasotexas.gov)  
(O): 915.212.1077  
(M): 915.355.6611