

July 2018
Commission Report
Nancy Howe, County Librarian

Say Hello to Go Go Biblio

Take a bookmobile, make it electric, then shrink it down to adorable size and you have the new Go Go Biblio. Santa Clara County Library District will have four Go Go Biblio mini mobile libraries arriving in late July. They are ‘fun sized’ electric vehicles designed to bring the library out to farmer’s markets, events, schools, senior centers, recreation centers and so much more. Because they are electric vehicles filled with books, movies, music and more, we like to say they’re Powered by Imagination.



Cupertino, Los Altos/Woodland and Saratoga will have their own Go Go Biblios thanks to funding provided by the Friends of the Cupertino Library, Los Altos Library Endowment and Friends of the Saratoga Libraries respectively. A fourth vehicle will be available to rotate between the other libraries. This is a great opportunity for SCCLD to take advantage of outreach opportunities within the community.

When you see one in your neighborhood, at the library or at a local event, be sure to come by and say “Hello Go Go Biblio!”



Summer Reading - Mid Point Check in

We're halfway through Summer Reading with almost 20,000 enrolled (3/4 of our goal) and over 33,000 books logged to date (1/3 of our community reading goal of 100,000 books). With one more month to go, and most patrons logging their books toward the end of the program, we're confident we're on track to meet our Summer Reading goals.

There's still time to participate if you haven't yet registered or logged your books. [Register](#), read at least 5 books and log them for a chance to win prizes from the SF 49ers, Tech Museum, Gilroy Gardens, Happy Hollow & Zoo, Monster Jam, Bounce-a-Rama and more. Remember, all reading is good reading!

Library Ballot Measures Under Discussion

Campbell Library and Los Altos Library could be in for a renovation and/or new library if their City Councils vote to put a measure on the November ballot. Campbell City Manager, working with Godbe Research, conducted a survey in March 2018 gauging resident support to update the Campbell Library and Police Department. Based on the survey results, City Council is discussing a \$50 million bond measure for this purpose. The details are still under discussion as to what would be included and the split between the two facilities. The next City Council meeting where it will be discussed will be held Tue, July 17.

The North County Library Association has established a Library Renovation Task Force with representatives from NCLA, LALE, Friends of the Los Altos Library and the Los Altos City Manager in support of a new Los Altos Library. They have updated the 2008 needs assessment report, as well as worked with Group 4 to identify the space requirements and estimated cost. A survey was developed in cooperation with Godbe research and the Los Altos City Manager to test resident support for a 40,000 sq ft new Los Altos Library. The survey, which went into the market the week of June 25, will test multiple funding levels including \$35 million, \$45 million and \$55 million as well as support for a parcel tax or a bond measure. The results will be shared with the Library Renovation Task Force on July 11 and based on the results, a measure could be proposed to the Los Altos City Council to go onto the November 2018 ballot.

ESL Classes Coming in August

Did you know that 37% of Santa Clara County's population are foreign born? We live in a diverse county, rich in various cultures. In support of our community, starting in August, we will offer free adult English as a Second Language (ESL) classes at Milpitas and Gilroy Libraries on weeknights. Classes will be offered on Mondays and Wednesdays, from August 6 to December 19. The Milpitas Library class will start at 6pm and end at 8pm, while the Gilroy Library will take place from 6:30 until 8:30 pm.



ESL instruction can help patrons improve their listening, speaking, pronunciation, reading, and writing skills at home and at work. The ESL classes are designed to help patrons increase their vocabulary, learn common English phrases, learn about American culture, and meet new people. Sign ups will be taken at the Milpitas and Gilroy reference desks.

Library Trends:

San Diego Public Library is the first California library system to eliminate overdue library fees. It has been an ongoing discussion amongst many library systems nationwide with more and more libraries interested in doing away with overdue fees. The big questions include: Are overdue fines necessary? Do they modify behavior to encourage patrons to return their materials on time? Do the benefits of having overdue fees outweigh the drawbacks? San Diego Public Library and the San Diego City Council made the decision to eliminate overdue library fees for all ages with the change effective as of July 1, 2018.

Wave goodbye to overdue fees at the San Diego Public Library

Posted: Jun 29, 2018 9:35 AM PDT Updated: Jun 29, 2018 11:50 AM PDT

SAN DIEGO (NEWS 8) - Good news for people who constantly return library books late.

Beginning July 1st, the San Diego Public Library will no longer charge a daily fee for items returned past their due date. The new policy will allow staff to use its time and resources much more efficiently.

The library collects \$675,000 in fees each year, but spends over \$1 million to collect them.

The library expects the new policy to improve access to low-income communities where, according to an analysis by the City of San Diego, over 40% of library cardholders can't check out materials because of late fees.

The new Library Fine Policy is as follows:

- 1 day after the item is due, materials are considered late. If you have an overdue item, your library card will be blocked and you will not be able to check-out any additional items. You are still able to use the library and renew other materials you have checked out.

- 7 days after the item is due, the library will send you an email alerting you that your library materials are overdue and must be returned or renewed.

- 14 days after the item is due, the library will email you a second reminder to return or renew your items.

- 30 days after the item is due, the library will consider the items lost and email you an invoice for the cost of the overdue item, applicable service fees, and your library card will be barred, preventing you from renewing or checking out items.

- 60 days after the item is due, the debt will be transferred to the City Treasurer. Your library card will be barred until the library is notified by the City Treasurer that the fine has been paid.

