

May 2019
Commission Report
Nancy Howe, County Librarian

Put Summer Reading Center Stage



Summer is a time for all kinds of good happenings, and most especially a space for us to come together as a community of readers – staff, library supporters, patrons of all ages, and our wonderful partners all learning together!

Research shows that kids who keep learning and reading over the summer fare better the next school year. Did you

know that 9 out of 10 teachers spend 3 weeks re-teaching content at the beginning of the school year? Summer reading and learning keeps those skills strong so youth keep moving forward rather than sliding back.

And READING is good for everybody to:

- Improve memory function
- Boost brain power
- Develop intelligence

It's Showtime at Your Library officially starts June 1st with advance registration opening May 1st. Register on [Beanstack](#) today or download and use the new app, the "Beanstack Tracker", available on the App Store or Google Play.

SCCLD is challenging participants to read at least five books this summer to reach a community goal of 200,000 books.

2019 features fun activities, great reads, a teen Battle of the Bands, opportunities to have your treasures valued by an expert, fun with music and chances for patrons to win exciting prizes including theater tickets, museum passes, a 49ers game experience and more. It all starts by registering on Beanstack or downloading the Beanstack Tracker!

Imagination Blocks are coming to SCCLD!



The Library is a community hub and a place for children to learn, grow and play. The Big Blue Blocks by Imagination Blocks are the latest innovative item coming to the SCCLD libraries this spring. These blocks – actually bricks, rods and cylinders that have special chutes and

channels to make them extraordinary – are made out of waterproof and yuck resistant foam inspire children to design their own inventions, situations and stories. Children develop physical fine and gross motor skills, engage in social situations, use their imaginations and practice problem solving...all while having a good time.

Three different sets will be rotating throughout all of our libraries all spring and summer. Keep an eye on the events calendar to know when the Big Blue Blocks will arrive at your library.

Patron Satisfaction Survey



Every three years, SCCLD conducts a patron satisfaction survey to hear directly from our patrons to collect valuable actionable information. From the 2016 survey, our patrons told us the days and times most desired to expand library hours at each of our libraries. As a result, our libraries have expanded open hours and all 8 of our libraries now offer library service 7 days per week.

We're aiming to launch the 2019 Patron Satisfaction Survey on Monday, May 20. Patrons will be able to fill out the survey online as well as in the libraries. We will have multiple ways to promote the survey including flyers, posters, SCCL website, newsletter,

social media, email and we'd like to ask for your assistance to help spread the word. There are multiple ways you can get involved including tabling at your library to be sure patrons know where and how to participate, sharing our social media posts, sending out emails to your friends and family with a library card, or passing out flyers, just to name a few.

The survey should take approximately 15 minutes to complete and will provide us with valuable insight into library use, how our patrons feel about the services provided, the experience they have when visiting our libraries, what is important when it comes to the wide range of library services and materials we offer (online and offline), when would they like to attend various types of programs, etc.

Thank you in advance for helping us get the word out about the Patron Satisfaction Survey.

May is Mental Health Awareness Month

One in five Americans faces a mental health condition, including anxiety, depression, addiction, ADHD, and eating disorders. While traditionally such personal health issues have rarely been publicly discussed, society has been moving toward greater understanding and openness in talking about them.



Please join us on Saturday, May 4 for Balanced Life, Balanced Mind, an all-ages, all-day mental health resource fair at Gilroy Library. Achieving a balanced mind and life is essential for maintaining happiness, contentment, health and success. This fair will feature vendors, services and activities around wellness. Workshops will be held throughout the day, discussing topics such as the psychology of stress, coping with grief and techniques to undo stress. There will also be programming dedicated to children. We've held 80 additional seats for the Headspace Mindfulness App for participants at the Mental Health Resource Fair. All programs are free and open to the public, plus all supplies for crafts will be provided.

Programs and activities include:

10am-2pm Prize Drawings and Giveaways

10am-2pm Resource Tables

10:15am Yoga for adults

10:15am Undo your Stress Techniques with **Nicole Steward, MSW, RYT: An expert in social work, crisis management, and family engagement.**

11am-1pm Adult & Teen Bath Salt Crafts and Origami

11:30am Psychology of Stress Presentation by **Dr. Nick Fortino: Psychology professor for multiple colleges, including Gavilan College.**

11:30am-2pm Coloring for Adults

1pm Engaging Leadership Motivational Seminar by **Lynda Nguyen: A Certified Coach, with a Masters in Medical Hypnotherapy, and certified as a Master NLP Practitioner (Health).**

2pm Coping with Grief Workshop with **Janneke Margaret Jobsis-Brown, LCSW: Clinical Social Work/Therapist who specializes in grief counseling.**

3:30pm Drawing with Pastels Art Class with **local artist David Hofstad**

For Kids:

11am Storytime

12pm YogaKids

1pm Criar hijos saludables y exitosos (se servirán aperitivos) / **A Successful Family Workshop in Spanish & Snacks with Ana Morante, LMFT, CFLE: A bilingual, bicultural Marriage and Family Therapist and Certified Family Life Educator.**

2pm-4pm Crafts including Art Therapy, Slime, Calming Jars and more!

Calling all Makers

Get ready for the greatest show (and tell) on Earth, as Maker Faire comes to South County. The Gilroy Mini Maker Faire will take place at the Gilroy Library on July 13th, from 11 am – 3 pm. From engineers to artists, scientists, and crafters, [Maker Faire](#) is a venue for "makers" to show hobbies, experiments and projects. It's a family-friendly showcase of invention, creativity, and resourcefulness. Join us for a celebration with hands-on activities and demonstrations featuring rockets and robots, digital fabrication, DIY science and technology, unique handmade crafts, and educational workshops.

We're looking for local makers who want to share what they do and showcase their work. Exhibits that are interactive or highlight the process of making things are especially desired. The more hands-on and interactive your project, the better! The call for makers, performers and crafters is open, and the application is available through our website at www.gilroy.makerfaire.com . Please help us spread the word.

Joint Powers Authority Board Meeting Update

The JPA Board meeting was held on Thur, Apr 25. Highlights from the meeting include the following:

- The independent audit report for FY17/18 was successfully completed with no deficiencies and a clean bill of financial health for SCCLD.
- Passport services will be expanded to Los Altos Library and tentatively expected to be launch by late Summer or early Fall.
- The FY19/20 budget was presented for review and the final review and approval will be at the June 27 JPA Board meeting.
- The FY19/20 updated vision wheel was shared which is aligned with SCCLD's FY19/20 budget priorities.

The agenda and information packet for all JPA Board meetings are available on our website at <https://www.sccl.org/About/Governance/JPA-Board-Meetings>