

**LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S REPORT
APRIL 5, 2021**

- The Library is excited to announce that **April 4 - 10, 2021** is National Library Week. In Santa Clara, we are celebrating this week with the expansion of lobby pick up service to our branch facilities. Residents will once again be able to pick up their holds, as well as grab and go bags, at the library most convenient for them. Each branch will be open at least three days a week, including one evening. Saturday hours will be available at both Central Park Library and Northside Branch Library. You can find information about the hours for each location at SCLibrary.org
- As of **April 19**, limited indoor computer and printing services will also be made available at all three locations. This service is an excellent resource for residents, especially those in underserved communities, to safely access essential services that they may not otherwise have at home such as Wi-Fi. As we continue to move forward through California's Blueprint for a Safer Economy, the Library will continue to look for opportunities to restore services while maintaining safety as our highest priority. During in-person visits, patrons will be required to follow State and County Public Health Department guidelines, be COVID-19 symptom-free, wear a face covering, and maintain social distance.

For more information, visit SCLibrary.org, email librarians@santaclaraca.gov or call 408-615-2900.

- National Library Week Activities – The theme for National Library Week 2021 is "Welcome to Your Library." Whether people visit in person or virtually, libraries offer endless opportunities to transform lives through education and lifelong learning. On **Monday, April 5**, the American Libraries Association issued its 2021 State of America's Libraries report. This work speaks to the critical role libraries have played throughout the pandemic. (<http://www.ala.org/news/sites/ala.org/news/files/content/State-of-Americas-Libraries-Report-2021.pdf>) Santa Clara library workers have demonstrated unprecedented dedication and commitment to the on-going continuation of vital library services. Whether through virtual programming, curbside or lobby services, in-person appointment services, bookmobile outreach, COVID-testing or food distribution programs, the staff of the Santa Clara City Library have continued to excel. **Tuesday, April 6**, is National Library Worker Day – a chance to thank these individuals for their commitment and dedication. **Wednesday, April 7**, is National Bookmobile Day. Here in Santa Clara, we are incredibly proud of our Bookmobile staff, Cody and Aggie. While our branches have been closed, Bookmobile staff set up tables every Tuesday at Mission Branch Library and on Thursdays at Northside Branch Library to maintain access to our neighborhoods. While this week we celebrate the re-opening up of our branches, we also look forward to re-directing the Bookmobile to community sites to further

expand our reach. Be sure to look for the Bookmobile coming to a site near you! **Thursday, April 7** is "Take Action for Libraries" day. During *Take Action for Libraries Day*, the ALA encourages librarians, library workers and patrons to advocate for full funding of IMLS which will safeguard federal funding for our nation's libraries. The hope is that advocates will fight for libraries by making at least five calls to their legislators to ask for full support of IMLS funding."

As part of our continuing commitment to ensure the safety of Library staff and patrons, all Library employees, contractors and on-site consultants were offered the opportunity to receive a COVID-19 vaccine. All employees who chose to participate have received at least their first dose, with approximately 14 employees scheduled to receive their final dose in the coming week.

- On **April 2**, the Stanford Blood Center conducted a mobile blood drive in the parking lot of the Northside Branch Library. This event was a new partnership with the City of Santa Clara to host monthly blood drives throughout the remainder of the calendar year. The April 2nd drive resulted in the collection of **26 units of blood and six first-time donors, potentially impacting 78 patients**. In the coming months, similar blood drives will rotate between the Youth Soccer Park, Reed and Grant Sports Park, Central Park Library and Northside Branch Library to encourage residents to donate lifesaving blood products that give critically ill patients a second chance at life. The City would like to thank Stanford Blood Center for its efforts to save lives in the City of Santa Clara.
- A project to install a 40kw roof mounted photovoltaic system at the Northside Branch Library is scheduled to begin in late April. During this time, use of the Library's parking lot will be restricted for staging purposes. This long-awaited project represents another step towards improving the sustainability of City facilities. It is anticipated that the project will be complete by early summer.
- The Fire Department will be installing three Little Libraries at Stations 1, 5 and 7. Library staff is currently working to support the Fire Department this exciting new initiative.
- Trustee Broughman requested that the following information from the Friends of the San Francisco Library be forwarded to the entire Board of Trustees:

"After years of threats to reduce library and museum funding at the federal level, libraries received a huge boost in the COVID relief bill signed by President Biden this week. Below, we provide commentary by California State Librarian Greg Lucas, honoring Speaker Nancy Pelosi and former State Senator John Burton for their key roles in advocating for library

support in the sweeping bill. You can also read the American Library Association's analysis of the COVID-19 Relief bill [here](#). Paramount in relief efforts is expanded access to broadband internet, an issue close to our heart as our SFPL provides the largest free internet in the city and is crucial to that digital infrastructure. Once again, San Franciscans, like Pelosi and Burton, prove that Library advocacy works!

From Greg Lucas:

President Biden signed into law the American Rescue Plan, a much-needed COVID relief package that includes \$200 million for the nation's libraries. This funding of which California receives approximately \$10 million for vital resources, programs, and services California communities need now more than ever.

While that \$200 million will benefit libraries in all 50 states, one of the reasons the nation's libraries are receiving this aid is the quiet efforts of two veteran California lawmakers. One is House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, and her long-time friend John Burton, the former head of the California State Senate. Over his career, John Burton has steadfastly worked to provide more opportunity for the state's most disenfranchised and at-risk residents. As a new California Assemblymember in the 1960s, Burton carried the first piece of legislation to help children on the autism spectrum. He was instrumental in passing the package of laws that created CalGrants, financial awards the state gives to students who succeed in school to allow them to go to college.

It's no surprise that Burton would reach out to his long-time friend about including library funding in the House version of the American Rescue Plan.

Libraries provide opportunity for the very people Burton – and Speaker Pelosi – work hard to help. Speaker Pelosi helped the American Library Association accomplish a key goal: ensuring that the \$200 million expenditure appeared in both the House and Senate versions of the rescue plan.

Many others, like the American Library Association, pushed hard to achieve the same result but a share of the credit must go to Burton and Pelosi, who worked together to ensure that libraries benefit from this one-time aid, which couldn't come at a more opportune time.

(*Federal funds are distributed through grant requests and awarded competitively, not across the board to all library systems.)”

- At the February Board meeting, it was requested that staff provide information on the current vacancies at the Library. The following is a summary of those vacancies:

FTE	Classification	Status
1.0	City Librarian	Recruitment in progress; Closes 4/18/2021
1.0	Asst. City Librarian	On Hold
1.0	Management Analyst	Filled 4/4/2021
1.0	Program Coordinator (Adult Services)	Offer Extended; Candidate in Background. Scheduled to start in May
1.0	Library Technology Asst.	Filled March, 2021
1.0	Library Assistant I	Recruitment Ongoing; Closes 4/16/2021
6.00	Librarian II	Recruitments to open April 2021;
2.50	Librarian II	Hold
1.0	Library Technology Asst.	Hold
.75	Library Assistant II	Hold