



City of Alameda • California

July 13, 2016

Dear President Atkin and Members of the Library Board,

This letter is to bring you up to date on activities during the months of May and June, and to provide a look forward to some of the projects which will be coming up.

Library Services Reports: (Consent Agenda). The April and May 2016 Library Services Reports are included in your Board Packet. The Expenditure Reports for May and June are also included.

City News. No new information regarding email accounts for Board and Commission members.

The City's Commission on Disability Issues representative to the Library Board, Ms. Susan Deutsch was present at the May meeting. Rather than be a "regular" report on the Library Board agenda, she prefers to receive an agenda in advance of the meeting and will attend if she sees an item of interest to her Commission. She will speak during Public Comment and after hearing her concerns and comments the item can be agenized for action if necessary.

Main Library Update. Summer Reading is here. Family Fun Day kicked off the summer reading sign-ups on June 18. Over 670 children and over 150 adults and teens signed up for their respective reading programs. As you entered the library you may have noticed the wonderful poster on the stairway landing advertising summer reading. A new poster will be added to a panel each couple of weeks during the summer. Most of children, friends, or spouses of library staff "getting caught" reading. An inexpensive yet eye catching marketing poster. The children's program is themed: "Read for the Win" and the adult/teen program is "Find your Summer Adventure." The teen/adult program is experience based so try something new this summer!

Kicking off this summer is a visit by the Scholastic Reading Road Trip Bus along with a few authors, costumed book characters and other giveaways. We have scheduled them to be parked in the Main Library parking lot on Wednesday, June 22, from noon to 3:00 p.m. This was a joint endeavor between the Boys & Girls Department and Books, Inc.

The Library has signed up to participate in the Mayor's 4th of July Parade under the organization of our new Teen Librarian, Hallie Fields. At this point, "Words on Wheels" our mobile library, will be the centerpiece of our mostly walking contingent. While I will be out of town for the 4th of July I understand that the staff, their families, friends, and other willing volunteers, will showcase library related programs or materials. Some will wear sandwich board book covers; others will have a Libraries Outdoors back packs; or summer reading accoutrements! Will wait to hear the results before the July Board meeting.

Lots of programs to be held this summer, keep your eyes on the list of events at the end of the Board Letter. No special children's programming will be scheduled in August except the End of Summer Reading Party on August 24. School begins earlier this year and the end of summer program was scheduled before the school calendar was published, so the Library's end of summer reading party will be after the school year has begun.

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Integrated Library Systems (ILS). Supervising Librarian Marlon Romero continues to exceed my expectations in managing the ILS procurement process. He made a brief presentation to the Library Board in May regarding out selection process and requested a Resolution of Support (for purchasing our selected ILS) from the Board. He negotiated the contract with Innovative Interfaces and acquired the necessary signatures. At the June 21 City Council meeting, the request to the City Council to approve the contract passed on the Consent Calendar. Once the “wet” signature copies are received back at the library, he will send one to Innovative and begin discussions with one of their engineers to set the timeline for installation of hardware and implementation. Marlon has included staff training and expects to have the launch of the system in October or November. Each location will be closed for two days for hardware installation and training.

Library Foundation/Friends of the Library. The *new* Executive Board met for the first time in April. The group has decided to hire an outside consultant to help merge the two organizations, conduct a visioning process, interview stakeholders, develop goals & a strategic plan, create new branding, and help to launch the marketing of the new organization. They hired Rose Chastain from Chastain Consulting. She works with non-profits, is local, and has done work with Rhythmix, the Boys & Girls Club, and others. She either has or is in the process of interviewing stakeholders and has met with the new board for their first visioning meeting. There are at least two more meetings with Rose scheduled. The new organization plans on using the 10th Anniversary as the launch of the new organization.

The 10th Anniversary plans are moving forward; the 10 year olds in front of the 10 year old building photo is scheduled for September 10. Saturday, November 5 will have a hip-hop dance party for toddlers & preschoolers in the morning, a panel library history talk in the early afternoon and a musical family program with the Alameda String Academy in the afternoon. Sunday will have a fundraising concert at Rhythmix, performer(s) still to be arranged. Save the date cards should have been sent to the council, city manager’s office and library board members by now.

The Live @ the Library concert series will still go on this fall, basically in the same format. September 17 will be a jazz pianist; October 22 will be the return of Jonathan Poretz, who sings Sinatra & Sinatra era songs (he was great fun the last time he came)! And since the library anniversary is in November, the Live @ the Library series will conclude in December on the 10th.

The next Friends meeting will be on Monday, July 18, 2016, at the Main Library in the Stafford Room at 7:00 p.m.

Alameda Reads. Alameda Reads held four sessions, or 10.5 hours, of volunteer training in May. Eight people completed the group workshop sessions. Five of them have already participated in a program offering like the reading practice group, the writing workshop or the book club, and the other three are scheduled to join one of the upcoming groups. Two volunteers have already “shadowed” an experienced tutor in the program and are ready to jump in now as full-fledged volunteers. The rest are almost there. Interim Literacy Director Amy Prevedel is pleased to have volunteers get involved right away in the program and begin working with learners who come in to the drop-in learning lab for tutoring.

Two Alameda Reads learners have gained skills and a great deal of confidence to begin doing volunteer work as a first step in gaining job experience in the U.S. One learner began volunteering for an Asian

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medicine advocacy group. She is gaining so much knowledge on the job, and hopes her work will turn into paid employment this fall. Another learner started volunteering in the Dewey's café at the library. She loves the library! And, she is thrilled that her English language skills have improved so much that she can now interact with customers and give back to the community through her volunteerism.

Another learner has passed her pre-police academy exams with flying colors. She is now on the fast-track to begin the full Police Academy this fall. The City of Richmond is specifically interested in her promise to help them implement community-based policing, and is sponsoring her in the training. Her tutor came to Alameda Reads after retiring from working in the justice system and conducting training for court employees. Her unique knowledge set for criminal justice made for a perfect match with our learner who decided she wanted to become a police officer.

Alameda Reads continues to do great things!!

Activities and Events.

July 30 – August 27: Islamic Art Exhibit: Language of the Quran, Main Library

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| July 2 | Super Summer Cinema: The Peanuts Movie. 2:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room |
| July 3 | Adult Coloring. 1:15 p.m. Main Library. Family Study Room (every other Sunday) |
| July 4 | ALL LIBRARIES CLOSED FOR July 4th OBSERVANCE |
| July 5 | Beginning Book Club. 3:30 p.m. Main Library, Felker Programming Room |
| July 5 | Notary Public. 6:00 p.m. Main Library (every first Tuesday of the month) |
| July 6 | Lawyers in the Library. 6:00 p.m. Main Library (also August 3) |
| July 6 | Internet Basics. 6:00 p.m. Main Library, Computer Lab |
| July 8 | Film for Adults: The Usual Suspects (rated R). 7:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room |
| July 9 | Libraries Outside: Head for the Hills. 9:00 a.m. Marin Headlands |
| July 9 | Tour d' Alameda. 10:00 a.m. Bay Farm Island Library |
| July 9 | Stop Playing Candyland. 2:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room |
| July 10 | Libraries Outside: Family Nature Club. 11:00 a.m. Crab Cove, Alameda |
| July 11 | Teddy Bear Picnic Story Time. 11:00 a.m. Tillman Park |
| July 11 | Crispin Bakery Tour. 3:00 p.m. Crispin Bakery (on Park St.) |

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- July 11 Adult Film: Papusza. 5:30 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 11 Alameda Book Club. 6:00 p.m. Main Library, Family Study Room (also August 8)
- July 12 Community Blood Drive. 12:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 12 Magic Show. 2:00 p.m. Bay Farm Island Library
- July 12 Intermediate Book Club. 3:30 p.m. Main Library, Felker Program Room
- July 12 Alameda Great Books Club. 6:00 p.m. Main Library, Family Study Room (also August 9)
- July 13 Library Board Meeting. 6:00 p.m. Main Library, Administrative Conference Room
- July 13 POV film: This Way to Olympia. 6:30 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 14 TGIT: Summer Trip to Shondraland. 4:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 15 Tween Time. 2:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room (every Friday through July)
- July 16 Improv Quilting Demonstration. 2:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 17 Coloring for Adults. 1:15 p.m. Main Library, Family Study Room
- July 17 Grown-up Gaming. 2:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 18 Teddy Bear Picnic Story Time. 11:00 a.m. Littlejohn Park
- July 18 Friends of the Library 7:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 19 Cake Decorating. 2:00 p.m. West End Library
- July 19 Advanced Book Club. 3:30 p.m. Main Library, Felker Programming Room
- July 19 STEAM: Powered Pinball. 6:30 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 20 Docent Program: Emperor's Treasures. 6:30 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 20 My Summer Adventure: Beer Tasting. 7:00 p.m. Alameda Island Brewing Company
- July 23 Libraries Outside. Hike Point Pinole. 9:00 a.m. Point Pinole
- July 23 Super Summer Cinema. Open Season. 2:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room
- July 25 Teddy Bear Picnic Story Time. 11:00 a.m. Washington Park

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July 25 Tiny Book Event. 1:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room

July 25 The Bubble Man. 3:30 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room

July 26 Knitting/Crochet Meet-Up. 6:00 p.m. Main Library

July 28 Messy Art. 3:00 p.m. Bay Farm Island Library

July 28 Libraries Outside. Floating Films. 7:00 p.m. Hyde St. Pier, SF.

July 30 Family Game Day. 2:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room

July 30 Harry Potter Party & Book Swap for Teens. 2:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room

August 3 Islamic Art Exhibit: Artist Reception. 6:00 p.m. Main Library, Stafford Room

August 24 End of Summer Reading Party. Cornelius Crowe. 6:00 p.m. O Club

If you have any questions about the items to be considered at the Board meeting, or if you would like to discuss these or any other items, please email me at jchisaki@alamedaca.gov or give me a call at 747-7747. I look forward to seeing you on Wednesday evening.

Sincerely,



Jane Chisaki
Library Director