
DATE: May 6, 2021

TO: Library Board, Pima County Public Library

Pima County Board of Supervisors
Pima County Administration
Friends of the Pima County Public Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Arivaca Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Esmond Station Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Kirk-Bear Canyon Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Oro Valley Public Library, Board of Directors
Friends of the Pima-Green Valley Library, Board of Directors
Pima Library Foundation, Board of Directors

FROM: Michelle Simon

SUBJECT: Deputy Director, Support Services – April, 2021

Facilities Projects - Ken McDonald, Facilities Administrative Specialist

Sahuarita Library – Construction is on schedule for substantial completion sometime in April. We hope to open to the public in July 2021.

Martha Cooper Library - Line and Space continues to work on a construction budget and initial drawings for concept review. Once approved, the concept will inform the creation of construction drawings.

Richard Elías-Mission Library - PCPL has begun the paperwork process to renovate and expand this location. Construction is anticipated to begin in late 2022.

Joel D. Valdez Main Library – 4th floor renovation has begun with an expected completion date of August 2021 or earlier.

Book Lockers - Book lockers are being installed at Nanini, Wilmot, and Oro Valley. Three additional locations – Joel D. Valdez Main, W. Anne Gibson-Esmond Station, and Sahuarita – will have lockers installed before the end of May 2021.

Eckstrom-Columbus Library – Two new bike rack systems are being installed – one in the parking lot and the other by the west entrance. The new system can be viewed at www.bikeep.com

FY 21/22 Furniture & Facilities Branch Requests: Support Services asked for submittal requests for furniture and Facilities items for FY 21/22 from all branches starting March 1st. Requests will be sent to Library Service Managers for review and then submitted to Support Services for final review and approval before June 30th.

Library Service Manager Reports

Administration – Beth Matthias-Loghry, Library Services Manager

Grants news from the State Library

The American Rescue Plan Act (ARPA) includes funding through IMLS as well as the Emergency Connectivity Fund for libraries that participate in e-rate. State Library staff are considering a number of ways to distribute these ARPA funds from IMLS. Jaime Ball, Grants administrator for the State Library tells me one idea is to award formula grants to the 90 public and tribal library systems in Arizona. The intent of the formula award is to reach as many Arizonans as possible through their local public libraries. She adds another possibility is a statewide platform to address digital inclusion, skills training, education, health or workforce development needs. This funding through the Institute of Museum and Library Services will be administered according the federal fiscal year (which begins in October.)

While plans for distributing the ARPA funds have not been finalized, Jaime Ball invites library staff, Friends and Board members to check The State Library's [grant funding webpage](#) to get updates about this award, current CARES Act awards, e-rate and Library Services and Technology Act Grants.

Focus on Friends

The Pima County Public Library (PCPL) viewed the Pandemic as an opportunity to revisit its relationship with the Friends and evaluate the ways we collaborate together, to better align around change, such as those sea changes the Pandemic presented for libraries and Library Friends groups. Supported by State-Grants-in-Aid funds, The Interface with Friends project began in November. The project, through surveys, and feedback sessions has sought to identify how PCPL and Friends can align, act, achieve, transition in a very disjointed time. The intent is to collaborate to address opportunities for redesign and learning. Currently, the project team, Beth Matthias-Loghry, Heather Severson and Jan Waukon of Skyhouse (Nonprofit Consultant), is looking at best practices in the field, and recommendations from the Friends and fund development side of things to prioritize the solutions that surfaced through the focus groups.

Communications and Systems Office – Jen Maney and Reneé Bibby, Program Managers

Getting Closer – New Android App AND Mobile Checkout

PCPL has a [mobile app](#) which got an update for iOS (iPhone) users in the fall. BiblioCommons is currently working on upgrading the app for Android users. We've also entered into a partnership to beta test a new feature – mobile checkout! Testing is going well so far, and we are excited that soon customers will be able to check out their own items using the app, bypassing checkout lines.

Gearing Up for Summer

As we do every year, the Library is offering great programs for kids and teens over the summer. Summer Learning 2021 is coming in June and July, and we have some sneak peeks on our website at <https://www.library.pima.gov/summer/>.

News about Acorn TV

Unfortunately, the Library is losing access to Acorn TV on May 14. RBdigital was bought by OverDrive, and they have been transitioning all of the RBdigital services over to OverDrive and the OverDrive app called Libby. However, Acorn TV is not currently licensed by OverDrive for the move, so we will lose access to it. We'll keep our eyes open, and hopefully we'll find another way to offer British TV and movies in streaming format in the future.

Grab N Go Activity Kits

Parents and caregivers have access to Grab N Go Activity Kits on the Learn at Home page - <https://www.library.pima.gov/learn/>. The kits are released every two weeks, and anyone can download and print the instructions. These kits cover STREAM (science, technology, reading, engineering, art, and math) learning opportunities you can do at home!

Collection Development and Technical Services, Diane Ward, Librarian II

Collection Weeding/Inventory/Purchasing

The weeding/inventory/purchasing schedule will be implemented starting June 1, 2021. This schedule allows PCPL to remove old/grubby materials from the collection, inventory specific sections of materials, and thoughtfully purchase materials to invigorate the overall collection. PCPL affinity teams add to this process with purchase recommendations to meet the needs of target populations in the community.