



Friends of the Pacific Grove Public Library

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President's Message

The City budget has been passed, the page has been turned, and this fall a new chapter opens in the Renewed Pacific Grove Public Library! Your emails, calls and letters were heard by the Council, and they truly made a difference for the future of library services in our community.

Further in this newsletter, in "Questions About the Library," you can read what this means for the return of library service during the COVID-19 pandemic.

The Friends will be stepping up our financial support for the Library, in partnership with the City and the Library Foundation. This spring and summer we have been supporting online children's programs as well as book giveaways at school free lunch pick-up sites, thanks to our past Monterey County Gives! donors.

This year the Friends will fund \$15,000 of books and other library materials, and \$18,000 towards library services and hourly staffing. Your memberships, donations, book sale and Dine Out contributions made this possible. Thank you!

Since mid-March our book sale at St Mary's has been closed, to keep our volunteers and our shoppers safe and healthy. We are still not accepting donations at this time, and do not have a

reopening date. We thank you for your patience as we think about what a reconfigured Friends used book sale might require.

Our Dine Out evenings have been suspended for the rest of 2020. We encourage you to keep supporting our generous local restaurant Friends through "take out or dine in" and look forward to resuming Dine Out again in 2021.

As we prepare for our reopened Renewed Library, and the return of limited library services in Pacific Grove this fall, the Friends Board and I have been reminding ourselves of our purpose as Friends.

We are fund-raisers and friend-raisers. We provide advocacy, financial support, encourage use of the Library, support the freedom to read, and "maintain an association of persons interested in the Pacific Grove Public Library."

In these challenging times, how can we work to ensure that our "association of persons" represents all persons interested in the PG Library? How can we better welcome and encourage all members of our community to join us as Friends? I welcome your thoughts and ideas at FriendsPGLib@gmail.com.

Stay well, stay healthy, and keep reading! ~ Kim Bui

Questions About the Library

Our membership has questions! Friends President Kim Bui has updates to share about the current state of the Library, as of the end of June. Please note: information below may be subject to change due to COVID-19 requirements, restrictions and delays.

Will the Holman Library reopen?

No. Library services at the Holman will not resume. Staff are sorting, boxing up and preparing to move everything from the temporary library back to 550 Central Avenue.

...continued on page 2

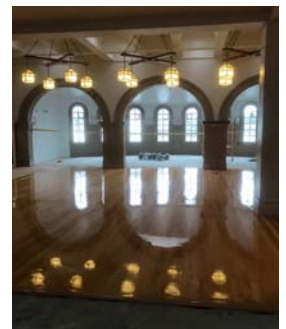
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Books at the Holman temporary Library site being prepared for the August move.

Locally-made replica historic lights reflected in the newly varnished Carnegie reading room floor.



ADA trough-style sink with touchless faucets.



New white shelving under the future Donor Recognition windows.

Questions About the Library

When will the move happen?

The Library Renewal construction project is targeted for completion in August, after which the move back into the renewed library can begin. It will then likely take several weeks for the books, furniture and other items to be put back in place, for technology to be reconnected, and for all other details of the move to be completed.

When will the Renewed Library reopen?

We don't know yet. Once construction ends and the move is finished, three things need to happen before the Library can reopen.

1. The State must approve restoring in-person library services, and the Monterey County Health Department and the City of Pacific Grove must also grant approval.
2. The Library must have an approved plan to put in place that adheres to State guidelines and includes all of the following: a) a detailed risk assessment and site-specific protection plan, b) training for employees on how to limit the spread of COVID-19, c) a plan for implementing individual control measures and screening, d) a plan for implementing disinfecting and cleaning protocols and e) physical distancing guidelines.
3. The Library must have sufficient, trained staff and personal protective equipment to implement the above plans.

When are my books due? Where can I return them?

PG Library books and materials can now be returned to Monterey Public Library, at the walk-up book drop at 625 Pacific Street in Monterey. Currently all checked out PG Library books and materials have a due date of July 31, 2020.

The PG Library book drop is closed, and won't be reopened until it is moved back to the Library at 550 Central sometime in August.

Can PG Library books be put on hold for check out? Where can I pick them up?

Holds can now be placed through the PG Library website (<https://www.pacificgrovelibrary.org/slide/using-catalog-pacific-grove-public-library>) but can only be picked up at Monterey Public Library, 625 Pacific Street, through their contactless curbside service.

Can I donate books to the Library? Or the Friends?

No donations can be accepted at this time, either for the Library or the Friends book sale. Please hold onto your books until the Friends can gratefully receive them again. And the Friends always donate any new or popular book titles or works by current bestselling authors to the Library to add to the collection. We promise!

Can I volunteer to help the Library?

At this time, the Library is not permitted to use volunteer help, due to COVID-19 restrictions and staff limitations. Once the Renewed Library meets State guidelines and is able to reopen, Library staff hope to resume using trained volunteers in previous Library volunteer positions.

How can I find out more, or find out when things change?

The most current Library information can be found on the Library's website, <https://www.pacificgrovelibrary.org>, Facebook page and Instagram account ([pacificgrovelibrary](https://www.instagram.com/pacificgrovelibrary)).

The City publishes a weekly newsletter at <https://www.cityofpacificgrove.org>.

Current information can be found on the Friends website, <https://www.pglibraryfriends.org/>, and on our Facebook page.

A Summer Reading Program Reinvented

Summer Reading in the Parks was created as a collaboration between the Pacific Grove Public Library and the City's Parks and Recreation Department, set to span the eight weeks of June and July 2020. Mary Weyant, PG Children's Librarian, said she and Kyle Susic, the City's Recreation Program Manager, developed the program "as a wonderful way to connect the Library and the City; we planned to have some of the City's day campers attend our programs, too."

Eight weeks, eight parks, eight live performances like Happy Birds and Andy Z to combine reading, song, entertainment and the joy of the outdoors in an engaging summer program that was funded by the Friends of the Library through a Monterey County Gives! grant. And then came COVID-19 and some quick rethinking, resulting in a virtual Summer Reading program that sprang from the imagination and dedication of the Library staff.

Although Mary's position was furloughed by the City, the Friends provided support to fund her salary part-time through the end of July so that children's programs could continue during summer vacation. "I am so, so grateful to the Friends," said Mary. "Your support is a validation of our profession as librarians, for me, and more importantly, for our patrons."

So instead of gathering at PG park locations for Python Ron's Reptile Kingdom or Music & Movement with Andy Z, virtual Summer Reading participants gather Wednesdays at 2 pm in a Zoom meeting. The program is then left online for one week at the Library's website. Happy Birds were in the spotlight recently—Amazon parrots, colorful Macaws and clever Cockatoos talking, singing and performing tricks! Part of the program is a presentation, followed by an interactive portion when children ask questions and share their own insights—or sing Happy Birthday to Piper the Cockatoo since it happened to be his special day.

Can a virtual program match an actual experience? Well, we know that children have a knack for making the most of the present moment! After singing Happy Birthday to Piper, one boy in the virtual audience, Levi, announced that he could play Happy Birthday on his violin. He ran into his bedroom, brought his violin to the Zoom meeting for all to see, and played for Piper and all the other children.

In addition to Summer Reading, Mary produces weekly videos of Baby Rhyme Time, Crafternoon and Preschool Storytime. There's also a monthly Lego Challenge—in June it was Amazing Mazes—with an online photo gallery to post entries and prizes for the top creations. In all, Weyant estimates more than 75 children are participating in the summer programs.

The biggest challenge is marketing the Library's summer programs, says Mary, since all the information is online. "We rely on people to share with others, and we've realigned our expectations for attendance. But being able to offer these opportunities is really important and I know the community is grateful."

Visit <https://www.pacificgrovelibrary.org/kids> and join the summer fun—all ages are welcome!.



Eight weeks of Summer Reading performances were sponsored by the Friends.

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 Petra Restaurant (George Nimri)
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 The Red House Cafe (Chris & Laura D'Amelio)

Victorian Corner Restaurant (Mary Allioti)
 Wild Fish Restaurant (Liz & Kelvin Jacobs)

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Donor and Member lists are current as of June 15; donations and memberships received after June 15 will be listed in the Fall newsletter. Please send any corrections to FriendsPGLib@gmail.com.

Meet Heather Lazare, Library Board Chair

The City of Pacific Grove has a five-member volunteer Library Board, appointed by the Council, and charged with advising the Council on matters pertaining to the Library. In March Heather Lazare became the latest PG resident to take on leadership of this important community board.



Heather Lazare,
Chair of the City
Library Board.

Heather's background as an editor and publishing manager for Random House, Crown Publishing, Simon & Schuster, Touchstone, New York led to her current work as an Editorial and Publishing Consultant. A co-founder of The Northern California Writer's Retreat, Heather is also an active participant in the Central Coast chapter of the California Writers' Club. All this while juggling parenting and working from home, with her spouse and children during the current Shelter in Place order.

We asked Heather to share her vision for the Library Board, the future of the Library, and what she's currently reading. Here's what she had to say: "I'd love the Library Board to continue to act as a voice for the community to City Council, and I would like for us to further advocate for funds and programing and safety measures as our city continues to reopen—and beyond!"

"I'm so excited for the re-opening of the Library in the beautiful new space! I'm grateful to our wonderful community and their generous donations for making this essential remodel possible. I hope that our Library can continue to serve as a resource for memorable books, periodicals, children's programs, comfy places to sit, and so much more! I'd love to hear from members of the community about their thoughts, and I can be reached at heatherlazare@gmail.com."

"I am reading *The Vanishing Half* by Brit Bennett. It's a novel about twin sisters who grow up in a Black community in the south and run away at age sixteen. It opens with one of the sisters coming back to her hometown with her Black daughter in tow, while the other sister is secretly passing for White in another town. It's a fascinating read so far, and while it's set between the 1950s and 1990s it also feels extremely timely."

In the past, the Library Board's public meetings were held monthly in the Council Chambers. With the advent of COVID-19, meetings have become bimonthly, and take place on Zoom. The next Library Board meeting will take place Monday, July 13, at 4 pm. For the Agenda and more information on how to participate, please visit: <https://www.cityofpacificgrove.org/about-city/boards-commissions/library-board>.

Like Us on Facebook!

Visit the Friends Facebook page:
[facebook.com/FriendsOfPacificGroveLibrary/](https://www.facebook.com/FriendsOfPacificGroveLibrary/)

The Gift That Keeps Giving

As a Friends member, you contribute to the library through your annual membership dues, helping supplement the City's annual library budget. That support is more important than ever this year when the City is facing unprecedented financial challenges and the Friends' main fundraising activities (book sales, Dine Out, etc.) for annual needs are on hold.

If you'd like to do more for the library now, but find it difficult because of other financial concerns, planned giving through the PG Library Foundation (Tax ID#45-1738473) might be the answer. Through estate planning, you can support the library by establishing a lasting legacy without giving up assets now. The most rewarding part of making a planned gift is the knowledge that future generations of children and adults will be transformed by the library thanks to your generosity and foresight in 2020.

While the Friends focus on immediate needs, the Foundation complements their work by building a stable, growing endowment fund providing annual distributions to supplement City library budgets through thick and thin. Our endowment fund is invested with the Community Foundation for Monterey County's long-term portfolio, which has earned an average 7.5% annual return over the last ten years. Your current donation or your estate bequest—large or small—becomes part of that growing fund. This is truly the gift that keeps on giving.

If you'd like to learn more, please:

— see our website: www.pglibraryfoundation.org

— email us at: foundation4pgpl@gmail.com

— write to us at: PGPL Foundation, P. O. Box 2025, Pacific Grove CA 93950

We thank you for your interest and welcome the opportunity to talk with you!

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Please sign up today! And thank you!



New circulation/reference desk and refurbished shelving.
New skylights bring natural light to the main room.

Library's online resources:
www.pacificgrovelibrary.org



BUSINESS SPOTLIGHT

The Friends Board want to spotlight ALL our Business and Dine Out members (listed in the Members section) during this time of disruption and business loss. We appreciate their generous support. Our community benefits when we shop, dine and spend locally. When our City's economy rebounds, Library staff and services will grow and return.

This summer, as you enjoy take-out or socially distanced dining, remember to support our 2020 Dine Out Friends:

- Beach House at Lovers Point (Kevin Phillips)**
- Il Vecchio (Carl Alasko)**
- La Mia Cucina (Michael & Paula Scanlon)**
- Max's Grill (Max & Yuko Muramatsu)**
- Pacific Thai Cuisine, Inc (Lex Juntaradarapun)**
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- Taste Bistro (Sue & Bill Karaki)**
- The Red House Cafe (Chris & Laura D'Amelio)**
- Victorian Corner Restaurant (Mary Allioti)**
- Wild Fish Restaurant (Liz & Kelvin Jacobs)**

We'll be highlighting our Business members in our Fall Newsletter. It's not too late to join the Friends and add your name!