

DATE: September 3, 2020

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, Deputy Director Support Services
Support Services Report

SUBJECT: Support Services Report – August 2020

Facilities Projects - Ken McDonald, Facilities Administrative Specialist

Sahuarita Library – Facilities Management has obtained the permits for Sahuarita and has issued the notice to proceed to the contractor. Construction will take approximately 1 year. Artist [Chris Lasch](#) is working with our designated community panel in the design phase of the library's public art. Also furniture & surfaces, paint colors are being discussed between library staff and Facilities.

Southeast Library – Now known as the Esmond Station Library, is in the phase of contractor punch list items. Also furniture, books, etc. are now being ordered. The Esmond Station Library is located in Vail, AZ on a corner of the acreage slated to become Esmond Station Regional Park, east of Empire High School and just off of Mary Ann Cleveland Way. The 8-9,000 square foot building is expected to cost around \$4.5 million, funded from the Pima County Public Library's general operating budget. When finished, it will become the 27th library in the Pima County Public Library system, and serve the people who live in or near Vail, Littletown, Corona de Tucson, and Rita Ranch.

Architects: [BWS Architects](#)

Contractor: [Division II Construction](#)

Martha Cooper Library - We have a designer on contract now, Line and Space LLC. The public art process has begun as well.

Caviglia-Arivaca – We have a fully executed Right of Entry (“ROE”) for Wallen Communications to install a microwave antenna on the Arivaca Library in order to improve that location's networking capabilities and telecommunications services.

FY 20/21 Furniture & Facilities Branch Requests: Support Services is reviewing the submitted requests for furniture and Facilities items for FY 20/21 along with special requirements to meet COVID-19 safety issues throughout the library system. High priority items will be accomplished first.

Library Service Manager Reports

Administration – Beth Matthias-Loghry, Library Services Manager

The Pima County Board of Supervisors accepted Library Services Technology Act (LSTA) funds to cover a Valencia 101 project. They also accepted CARES Expanded, an IMLS CARES Act award, which like LSTA funding is passed through the Arizona State Library. CARES expanded supports digital network access, or Internet accessibility in response to the Coronavirus. The Library is currently finalizing purchasing, details on Child Internet Protection Act (CIPA) compliant hot spots. We will work with school leadership around Pima County to issue portable Internet Service tools, so students can attend school or complete assignments at a distance. The State-Grants-In-Aid report featured the high spot of team training in Seattle from the Search Institute. There, Kendra and several members of the Library Restorative Practices for Youth team learned more about the Search Institute's Developmental Relationships framework to expand that program in more libraries. State Grants-In-Aid funding for 2021 is in the award process. As we embark on a new Community Impact Plan, this funding will help to provide staff opportunities to learn more. Funding will help staff align their work for success, encourage collaborations with their co-workers, and to address the health of our organization, even in times of uncertainty.

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

Personalized Reading Recommendations

This month, the Library launched **Personalized Reading Recommendations**, a new service to match readers to books they'll love. The Library's Ravenous Readers team has led this effort, and they have staff from all over the library system helping to recommend just the right book for the right reader.

Anyone can use our Personalized Reading Recommendations service to request recommendations from your own Personal Reading Assistant and get an annotated list of three to five (3-5) books catered to your interests. Personal Reading Assistants have expertise in all reading tastes, and customers can even select, "Surprise me!" In the first three weeks, the Assistants received 130+ requests! Clearly, readers want more books!

See Personalized Reading Recommendations at <https://www.library.pima.gov/prr>

Learn at Home

With the world as it is, many families are going to school in a different way this year, and the Library wanted to make sure they have the resources they need to manage homeschooling and remote learning. Working with the Community Engagement Office, the Communications & Systems Office created a Learn at Home page for students, parents, and anyone else helping students learn at home.

The Learn at Home page is geared toward students K-8 and includes online resources everyone can use for free to help with school work on any subject. It also includes a prominent link to our online tutoring service, Brainfuse, which makes live tutors available to students of any age every single day from 2 pm to 11 pm. These experts can help with any school subject. In addition, staff are writing blog post aimed at helping families be successful at learning at home. These blog posts will go up regularly, and cover topics such as getting affordable internet access, how to help cope with the stress of at-home learning, and ways people may not know that the Library can help.

Learning at home isn't just for K-8, so we've also updated the Teens page of the website to include learning at home tools geared toward high schoolers.

Visit Learn at Home at <https://www.library.pima.gov/learn/> and see the tools for teens at <https://www.library.pima.gov/teens/>.

Reading Tracking Online

Summer Learning may have ended, but reading is important all year long, so the Library has decided to keep the online reading tracking tools up for kids to use throughout the year. Kids and their parents can access the tracking tool on the Kids page, the Tweens page or the Learn at Home page.

Visit Learn at Home at <https://www.library.pima.gov/learn/> to access the reading tracker.

Coronavirus Resources

We continue to share links to useful community resources about coronavirus on our website. These are linked on many pages, including the homepage, and are all gathered together here: <https://www.library.pima.gov/explore/?tag=coronavirus>