

County Librarian's Report to the Library Commission

Thursday, May 21, 2026

NEW LIBRARY SERVICES MANAGER JEN BURTON

Please welcome new Library Services Manager Jen Burton. Jen will be overseeing both the Virtual Library and Circulation Services teams. She has previously worked as a teen librarian and branch manager at the Queens Library (NYC) and most recently at Oakland Public Library, where she supervised eight branches.

STRATEGIC PLAN PROGRESS REPORT AND ANNUAL REPORT

The Library's strategic plan progress report and annual report are [now available](#) on our website and are also attached to this report. Please take a look to read about a number of accomplishments since the publication of the updated strategic plan in August of 2024.

SELF SERVICE SUNDAYS UPDATE

Online orientation for new sign-ups for Self Service Sundays launched on March 23rd. Since then, there have been 29 new sign-ups for a current total of 191 people registered. Self-Service Sundays will launch at the San Pablo and Pittsburg Libraries on Sunday June 7, 2026. Brentwood, Danville, and Orinda are confirmed for the final three county-funded sites. They will launch sometime during the first three months of 2027.

UPDATED TIMELINE FOR LIBRARY RENOVATIONS AND CLOSURES (changes are highlighted)

Pinole Library

Closure length: March 1, 2026, for approximately 11 months

Scope of work: New roof, new all-electric HVAC, modernized electrical system, energy-efficient interior lighting and cleaner air technology, and a repaved parking lot with ADA improvements

Closure details: <https://ccclib.org/news/pinole-library-to-undergo-major-renovation-to-modernize-50-year-old-facility/>

Kensington Library

Closure length: **July 24, 2026** for at least one year

Scope of work: HVAC, electrical and lighting upgrades, ADA improvements, and interior renovations and remodel

Ygnacio Valley Library

Closure length: **July 30, 2026** for approximately 8 – 10 months

Scope of work: New roof, new HVAC, lighting & electrical upgrades

Antioch Library

Closure length: **September 1, 2026** for approximately 4 months

Scope of work: Electrical and lighting upgrades, ADA improvements to parking lot

We will also be closing the **Clayton Library** for two months for an interior refresh, most likely in the Fall. Details will follow as they are available.

ANNUAL CITY LETTERS

The Library provided cost estimates for extra hours, technology and facility costs (if applicable) for the next fiscal year to each of our city partners on March 25th. Extra hour options are for 6, 12, or 16 hours per week. If a City is going to change the number of extra hours they are funding in the next fiscal year, they must inform the Library by May 31st. At this point, no cities have indicated any changes in extra hours funding.

CAREER ONLINE HIGH SCHOOL GRADUATION

All Library Commissioners are invited to the 2026 Career Online High School (COHS) graduation ceremony at the Orinda Library Auditorium on May 23rd at 11:00 a.m. Library Commissioner Lynn Mackey, County Superintendent of Schools, will present the diplomas to the graduates. The graduation ceremony is generously sponsored by the LFCC.

Career Online High School (COHS) is an accredited online high school diploma and career certification program available through the Contra Costa County Library in partnership with California State Library and Smart Horizons Career Online Education. The library offers free enrollment to qualified, motivated students. There are currently 31 students enrolled in the COHS program.

COMMISSIONER MENTOR/MENTEE PAIRS

Thank you for filling out the mentor/mentee interest form. The County Librarian, Chair and Vice Chair will create the pairs at their June agenda setting meeting. Nadia will email the pairs and introduce them to each other shortly thereafter.

SUMMER READING 2026

Summer Reading will take place from June 1 - August 1 and is called "Plant A Seed, Read!". Participants can sign up to participate online via Beanstack, print out their reading passport from our website, or come into a library to pick one up. Everyone who completes summer reading wins prizes, including a free book, and is entered into a drawing for a chance to win more amazing prizes.

LUNCH AT THE LIBRARY

The following libraries will host lunch at their locations in partnership with their local school districts: Antioch, Concord, Crockett, El Cerrito, El Sobrante, Rodeo, San Pablo. The Bay Point, Pittsburg and Prewett (Antioch) Libraries will provide library services and programming outside of the libraries at school-sponsored meal sites. Anyone under the age of 18 may participate. Dates and times will vary depending on each school district partner and library open hours.

COMMISSIONERS WITH EXPIRING TERMS

The following commissioners' terms will expire on June 30, 2026. If you are interested in continuing to serve on the Library Commission (and we hope you are!), please work with your appointing body to reapply.

1. Linda Sendig (Brentwood)
2. Vivian Faye (Brentwood)
3. Nicole Gemmer (Danville)
4. Bob Sanguedolce (Danville)
5. Donna Rennie (Hercules)
6. Wylendia Eastman (Hercules)
7. Julia Dozier (Pleasant Hill)
8. Richard Means (Pleasant Hill)
9. Heather Lurvey (Walnut Creek)
10. Lorie Tinfow (Walnut Creek)
11. Arnold Fitzpatrick (District III)
12. Time Fares (District III)