



check it out



Long Beach Public Library

March 9, 2017

Way to Go!

I would like to commend and thank **Kimberly Jackson** for her professionalism and superlative skills. She provided exceptional support as I was trying to bring about a new service to our community. Patrons can now preserve and share memories by digitalizing their photographs, through our Community Heritage Program. She wrote the program's proposal, created a Youtube video tutorial and step-by-step instructions. She's already given our adult and teen volunteers some hands on training. She's awesome to have on our LBPL team! Thank you to **Meghan Weeks** for the scanner and **Laura Ochoa** for being in the Youtube tutorial.



Chenda Yong

Make it at Mark

With Spring just around the corner, Mark Twain tweens and teens joined our Make It at Mark program to learn how to sew together a felt garden gnome. Participants also took home a California flower seed bomb to grow in their gardens. From sewing to soap making, the Make it at Mark program is open to participants 10 years and up and is held every 1st Wednesday of the month.



Christina Nhek

Daylight Savings Time

The time-honored ritual of setting clocks forward an hour is coming this Sunday, March 12. The springtime clock-change continues the long tradition started by Benjamin Franklin to conserve energy.

Amnesty Comes to LBPL

This past Tuesday night, City Council approved a library amnesty program that will occur the entire month of April, which coincides with National Library Month. The public will be able to return any undamaged, overdue library materials and have the associated fines waived. If patrons have overdue fines from previously returned materials, they can donate a new book and have these fines waived, too. Details to implement the program will be provided shortly. See the City Council memorandum for more information. Please contact Susan Jones if you have any questions.

Susan Jones

Read Across America Day

Last Thursday, March 2nd was Read Across America day, started by the National Education Association in order to motivate every child to read, and to educate everyone about the importance of reading. It is held on the birthday of Dr. Seuss, and has for years prompted educators and librarians to



don their red and white striped hats for the occasion. LBPL librarians are no exception! Last week, **Danea Famatid** and **Alana LaBeaf** were invited to read at the YMCA Play & Learn Preschool. Each of them read a Dr. Seuss story and sang a song to

the enthusiastic children, who nearly knocked down Alana – er, the Cat in the Hat – with their exuberant hugs. The kids also loved Danea, who will be taking over the YMCA partnership as Alana shifts her focus primarily to teen services. Danea has also officially started leading the BabyTime! and ToddlerTime! storytimes at Main library, but Alana surprised the storytime regulars by popping in on Friday's ToddlerTime!, again dressed as the Cat in the Hat. The sun was sunny, and Danea and Alana had lots of good fun that was funny!

Alana LaBeaf

Saturday In-Charge

Ziba Zehdar is in charge March 11, 2017.

Saturday Security Officer

Security Officer **Rodriguez** will be at Main on March 11, 2017. Call (562) 435-6711 for non-emergencies, and 9-911 for emergencies.



Councilmember
ROBERTO URANGA
 Long Beach, Seventh District

Memorandum
City of Long Beach
Working Together to Serve



Date: March 7, 2017
To: Mayor and Members of the City Council
From: Councilmember Roberto Uranga, Seventh District (10)
 Councilwoman Suzie Price, Third District
 Councilmember Stacy Mungo, Fifth District SM
Subject: Library Overdue Fines Amnesty Program

RECOMMENDATION:

Request the City Manager establish a one month Long Beach Public Library Overdue Fines Amnesty Program from April 1, 2017 to April 30, 2017 that will support the recovery of circulation materials and provide the opportunity for patrons to return overdue books, thus restoring their library borrowing privileges at the twelve branches of the Long Beach Public Library system.

BACKGROUND:

The Long Beach Public Library has 797,776 circulating items, including books, eBooks, audiobooks, magazines and DVDs that support literacy and education for our residents.

In 2016, the Long Beach Public Library processed more than 1.2 million check outs and over 1.2 million visits. However, each year, materials are not returned to the library and will not be recovered. Many items are still in the possession of the borrowers and could be returned to the library for use by other patrons. The current Long Beach Public Library overdue fine is 35 cents per item per day, up to a maximum of \$5.60 as established by the City's Master Fee Schedule. Once the overdue fine reaches the maximum, the fine is changed to the full replacement cost of the item. To maintain full borrowing privileges, Long Beach Public Library patrons are required to keep their accrued fines and fees at \$20.00 or less. Although library fines are intended to encourage borrowers to return library materials in a timely manner, some library users accumulate substantial fines that discourage them from paying and lead them to simply forfeit their library privileges.

Last year, the City Council approved an overdue fine amnesty program as part of the Long Beach Public Library's annual celebration of National Library Month in April 2016. The response to the program was overwhelming and the feedback from patrons was extremely positive with 4,055 patrons participating and returning 10,103 items with an estimated value of \$181,854. Also, 3,220 items previously considered lost were returned with an estimated value of \$57,960. Additionally, the library received 2,911 new donated books to add to its collection. The Library Overdue Fines Amnesty Program will continue to assist with the recovery of overdue materials, thereby increasing the availability of materials for circulation, reducing material replacement cost, and increasing the number of library patrons with full borrowing privileges.

FISCAL IMPACT:

The potential decrease in revenue due to the Overdue Fines Amnesty Program is expected to be offset fully by the potential recapture of a substantial amount of City property, as evidenced by last year's amnesty program. The Long Beach Public Library has approximately 16,712 library items overdue and not available for circulation, which represents approximately \$284,688 in City property.