



FRIENDS of the Sierra Madre Library

FOUNDED IN 1953

November 2023

President's Message

Dear Friends and Partners,

It's great to hear that the Library is making progress and has a temporary location during construction. The old Bank of America building at 350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. will serve as the library's temporary location, and it's set to open in **December 2023**. This is indeed an exciting first step in a long-awaited process, and it will likely bring many benefits to the community once the new Library is completed. It's always good news when essential community resources like libraries continue to evolve and improve.

I am happy to announce that the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library will be hosting their **2nd Annual Snowflake Winter Event** at the Hart Park House this year. This event will be a lot of fun for the whole family, with activities like face painting, taking pictures with Rose Float Princesses and/or Firefighters, and cookie decorating. The event is scheduled for **Saturday, December 2**, and tickets are available for purchase on [our website](#). It's a fantastic way to bring the community together and support the library's initiatives. Please come and I just know it will be an enjoyable event for all!

Do you have great ideas for fund raising and want to share them? Do you enjoy supporting your community through volunteerism? Are you looking to socialize with a great group of Friends? We are the place for all of that and more! Please reach out if you or someone you know fits that description.

If you know of someone who would like to be a Partner and be a part of these wonderful events, reach out to me, or visit our website sierramadrelibraryfriends.org. We have also created this very handy QR code below. This link will take you directly to the site to join our Partners Program.

It gives me so much joy to be a part of this very awesome group! If you or someone you know would like to volunteer for Friends or any of our events, please reach out to me at 626-202-8502.

Julie Bencosme



FRIENDS of the Sierra Madre Library



Friends of
the Sierra Madre Library

Snowflake Célébration

Family · Fun · Food · Crafts · Prizes

Hart Park House

222 W. Sierra Madre Blvd

Saturday, December 2

5:30 – 8:00 P.M.

Fun for children
face painting
cookie decorating
photo opportunities

and a special appearance by
the Snowflake Princess!

Fun for adults
light appetizers
wine
holiday treats
music
and prizes

Tickets are \$10 for adults and \$5 for
children (children under 5 are free)

Sponsored by the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library



LETTER FROM THE CITY LIBRARIAN

Hello All,

Your friendly neighborhood City Librarian Leila Regan here to talk about the changes coming to the Library in the form of the *Library Meaningful Improvement Renovation Project*. This project began toward the end of the 2014-2017 Sierra Madre Public Library Strategic Plan, after a 2015 property condition assessment of the Library campus located at 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd, and a 2016 accessibility survey. Forging ahead a “Library Facility Master Plan” was created through extensive research and work by community members, Library staff, and the Library Board of Trustees in 2017. This is the first time a *meaningful improvement* was mentioned. It was portrayed as:

A plan that addresses identified building issues and deficiencies by providing a meaningful remodel and expansion of the Library based on a priority of community and civic needs. The *meaningful improvement* plan is further outlined in the aforementioned “Library Facility Master Plan” which is available to the public at the Library or online through our transparency page.

Over the last five years, small projects took steps towards a *Library Meaningful Improvement Renovation Project* like painting the exterior of the Library building, providing angled parking in the front of the Library, updating the front ADA parking, and making the staff entrance area ADA compliant. It was thanks to Assemblymember Chris Holden, that this renovation project finally picked up its pace. In July 2022, the Library received \$10 Million in funding from the State of California, as administered by the California State Library in a targeted grant.

Additionally, that same year the California State Library provided an additional \$334,605 that the City of Sierra Madre was able to match for a total of \$669,210 in a California State Library Building Forward Infrastructure Grant. The City of Sierra Madre has provided the following funding in regards to the *Library Meaningful Improvement Renovation Project* over the past few years:

Library Projects funded by City	FY	Amount
Library painting of building	21/22	36,600
Library front parking	22/23	330,048
relocation costs	23/24 budgeted	113,000
match grant	23/24 budgeted	334,605
		814,253

After six years, the Sierra Madre Public Library building is receiving some much-needed renovations and an expansion to better serve its evolving community. These renovations are projected to begin in winter/spring 2024 and can last up to two years. The Library will be receiving some much-needed seismic retrofitting and the building will be brought up to ADA compliancy. Additionally, the building will be receiving new or upgraded plumbing, electrical, and HVAC as well as a building expansion.

The Library has secured a temporary Library location, which will be **350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.** As the Library prepares for the upcoming renovations, the public can expect the following:

- **September 2023:** *Reduced programming* as staff organizes the Library for relocation to a temporary location.
- **October 16, 2023:**
 - Library will close to the public.
 - The transition to move materials, shelving, furniture, office supplies, etc. will begin.

This means for the public no physical access to the Library and:

- Item checkout or renewals will not be available.
- Return of items currently checked out will not be available.

- Patrons are to keep their checked-out items until we re-open.
- There will be no overdue fines.
- Programming will not be available
 - Almost all programming will cease during the relocation.
- Study room/reading room usage will not be available.
- Library card renewal will be available online only through our catalog.
- Live person services or reference will not be available.
 - We will not only have the building closed, but we may not have regular access to our phone system and online services as we transition.
- Digital resources are available.
 - Check out our electronic resources available for free with your Library card through our online catalog. They include:
 - Libby – eBooks & audiobooks
 - Kanopy – streaming movies
 - PressReader – online magazines
 - Mango Languages – online language tutorial
 - Brainfuse HelpNow – online homework help
 - And other reference databases and courses will be accessible

- **November 2023:**

- Library will remain closed to the public as the temporary Library location at **350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.** is finalized.

- **December 2023:**

- The Library will re-open to the public at our temporary location, **350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.** Our temporary Library will have:
 - A small amount of study space.
 - Book collections reduced by half.
 - Minimized programming for the first month.

- **January / February 2024:**

- A Mobile Library will be launched to help reach more patrons.
- Programming will also slowly return with some alternative locations, depending on available space.

We are overjoyed that TSK Architects has taken on the remodel, renovation, and expansion of the 1955 building and we are impressed with their work on this project. To learn more about the Library Meaningful Improvement Project and to take a look at the very preliminary schematic designs of the Library remodel, check out our Library’s transparency page for this project. It can be accessed on the Library’s homepage (www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library) and is the first available link under *In The News*. Scan the QR Code to visit the Library’s transparency page.

The *Library Meaningful Improvement Renovation Project* is a monumental task and it would not have been possible without the continued support and guidance from entities like the Library Board of Trustees and our Friends of the Sierra Madre Library. Thank you for continuing to provide and care for the Library.

If you have any comments or feedback about this project after visiting the Library transparency page, please feel free to reach out to me at LRegan@cityofsierramadre.com.

Mahalo Nui Loa,

Leila Regan
City Librarian



MEMBERSHIP

Happy Thanksgiving to all! The Friends of the Library are truly thankful to all of its current members. It is because of your valuable contributions that we are able to offer so many awesome programs at the Sierra Madre Public Library! We can't do it without you!

What does your Membership mean for the Library? Traditionally, your annual dues vitally support many Library programs such as: adult and teen programs, archival preservation, large print books, summer reading programs, and computer and technology improvements. Your dues have also historically supported the practical and administrative costs of the Friends, including the production and mailing of your monthly Newsletter, which serves to advertise and promote Friends and Library events. During this transition period your Membership continues to be crucial to continuing the support of the above-mentioned programs both now and moving forward!

Growth in our Membership is also vitally important to the health of our Library programs. So, if you are a member, please consider passing along to family, friends, colleagues and businesses the great benefits that the Library brings to you and the community and encourage them to become a valued Friend of the Sierra Madre Public Library.

Contact:

Beth Kerns

Text: 626-437-7991

Email: bethkerns@aol.com

And remember...

Membership can be accessed easily online at www.sierramadrelibraryfriends.org whether you are new, renewing, or recommending Membership to someone in your circle.

Thank you to all who have already forwarded your Membership dues!

Beth Kerns

Membership Director

BEST USED BOOK SALE

Our October Moving Sale was a great success! We made **\$2,741.75**; on Saturday we sold about 180 \$5.00 bags! Added to our presales from the internet and the Silent Auction, we've earned **\$5,008.47 since the August sale!** Many thanks to all the volunteers who worked in the 98-degree heat that weekend, and to all the Friends who support our sales.

We'll be accepting donations again starting **Monday, November 13** at the Temporary Library Building at 350 W. Sierra Madre Blvd. We hope to have our regular December Book Sale on the parking lot there on **Friday, December 1 and Saturday, December 2** although the Library will not yet be open. We'll be featuring holiday books and gifts as well as our usual Bargain Books. See you then!

PARTNERS PROGRAM

Partners support the Library with an annual contribution at the **Partners** (\$100 or more); **Silver** (\$250 or more); or **Gold** (\$500 or more) **Level**. We would like to thank those Partners who renewed their membership this past month: Susan Gallagher, Thomas & Pamela Reichardt and Wendy & Rob Stockly.

If you would like to become a Partner, please mail your donation to Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, Partners Program, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. Kindly write "Partners" in the memo line and indicate your level of commitment. Thank you!

GENERAL FUND DONATIONS

The Friends of the Sierra Madre Library would like to thank Jean Coleman and Michael Murphy who recently each made a generous donation to the Sierra Madre Library. Susan Gallagher also made a generous donation in honor of Martha Troedson for her kindness, consistency, and commitment for many years to the Best Used Book Sale and Sierra Madre Library.

Monies in the General Fund are used to purchase and replenish books, software and other resource items and to fund the Library's many outreach programs. If you would like to make a tax-exempt donation to this fund, make out a check to the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, write "General Fund" in the memo line, and mail your check to the Friends of the Sierra Madre Library, P.O. Box 334, Sierra Madre, CA 91025. We are grateful for your support!

READER'S REVIEW



This month's review is by Richard Bellikoff

**Commander in Cheat:
How Golf Explains Trump**

By Rick Reilly

For amateurs, golf is a game of honor in which individual players keep their own scores and act as their own

referees. As sportswriter and golfer Rick Reilly says, "Golf is like bicycle shorts. It reveals a lot about a man." What it reveals about Donald Trump is that he's a compulsive, pathological cheater who will do anything to win at golf, and by extension in business and politics."

Reilly interviewed an array of golfers, caddies, Trump's playing partners and opponents, former Trump employees and course developers to catalogue all the ways that Trump cheats. He lies about his scores (the Trump Bump, as Reilly calls it). When he hits a bad shot, his ball often miraculously migrates onto the fairway from the rough, a bunker or even the water. Reilly describes how at Winged Foot Golf Club in New York "the caddies got so used to seeing him kick his ball back onto the fairway they came up with a nickname for him: 'Pele.'" That's the Brazilian soccer legend.

Trump also cheats to sabotage his opponents' games. His caddy told sportscaster Mike Tirico how Trump threw Tirico's ball off the green into a nearby bunker when they played together. Trump violates golf etiquette by driving his cart on the greens. "That's the unholiest of unholies," Reilly says. "Driving your cart on the green is like hanging your laundry in the Sistine Chapel."

Notorious for stiffing his lawyers and the contractors who work on his buildings, Trump behaves similarly in golf. "When it comes time to pay up," Reilly says, "he can flip like a weathervane." He owed Andrew Tesoro \$141,000 for designing the clubhouse at Trump Westchester but refused to pay. Rather than sue and be tied up in court for years, Tesoro settled for just \$25,000. Trump denied overtime pay to waiters and staff at Trump Doral Miami. He also lies about the value and quality of his courses, claiming that he owns "the greatest collection of golf courses in history." Reilly debunks this claim.

Reilly concludes, "If you'll lie about every aspect of the game, is it that much further to lie about your taxes, your relationship with Russians, your groping of women? If you'll cheat to win at golf, is it that much further to cheat to win an election? To stop an investigation?" Reilly is a witty and entertaining writer, but there's nothing amusing about Trump's mendacity.

CALL # STATUS: 973.933 REILLY

CALENDAR OF EVENTS



NOVEMBER CALENDAR

NOVEMBER

NOVEMBER 13

NOVEMBER 15

NOVEMBER 27

7:00 P.M.

5:00 P.M.

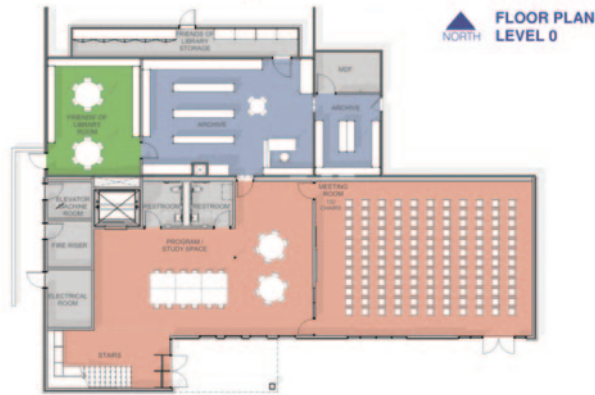
LIBRARY CLOSED DUE TO RE LOCATION

BEST USED BOOK SALE ACCEPTING DONATIONS

FRIENDS BOARD MEETING

LIBRARY TRUSTEES MEETING

CITY OF SIERRA MADRE | SIERRA MADRE LIBRARY REDESIGN AND IMPROVEMENTS



Read, Discover, Connect @ Sierra Madre Public Library

Mondays, Tuesdays and Wednesdays 11:00 a.m.-8:00 p.m.
 Thursdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Saturdays 10:00 a.m.-6:00 p.m.
 Closed Fridays, Sundays and Holidays

LIBRARY HOURS

Sierra Madre Public Library
 440 W. Sierra Madre Blvd.
 Sierra Madre (626) 355-7186
 TEXT (626) 662-1254
www.cityofsierramadre.com/services/library/

THE FRIENDS OF THE SIERRA MADRE PUBLIC LIBRARY
 P.O. BOX 334, SIERRA MADRE, CA 91025
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