



NEWS RELEASECounty Administrative Office

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Apple Valley library to reopen in temporary space





The County-owned-and-operated Apple Valley Newton T. Bass Branch Library will reopen for business in temporary space adjacent to the library in time for the June kickoff of the library's Summer Reading Program.



Interconnected modular units will provide 5,000 square feet of library space in the parking lot of the County library at 14901 Dale Evans Parkway in Apple Valley. Internet access on 23 computers and a vast collection of books for adults and children will be available while the library undergoes repairs.



"I understand the significant inconvenience this forced closure has caused Apple Valley residents. But I have pushed for solutions and we are moving forward in order for the community to once again enjoy a full array of library services," said First District Supervisor Robert Lovingood, who requested and received \$2.5 million in County funding from his colleagues on the Board of Supervisors to fully fund the repairs.

"Our citizens need a full-service library and it has proven difficult for them this past year," said Barb Stanton, mayor of the Town of Apple Valley. "The modular computer facility is gratefully accepted as we await repairs to the main building."

Vice Chairman Lovingood and County Chief Executive Officer Greg Devereaux met last week with Mayor Stanton and Apple Valley Mayor Pro Tem Scott Nassif to discuss County library services to the people of Apple Valley.

The County library has been closed for 11 months because what started off seeming like simply a problem with the fire sprinkler system turned out to be structural issues with the roof. It has taken many months of inspections and studies by engineers for both the County and insurance companies to determine the extent of the problems and discuss solutions. The heart of the repair work cannot begin until the end of the rainy season, so there still is no accurate estimate for when the library will reopen.

The Summer Reading Program begins on Monday, June 6 and continues through Saturday, July 30. Super heroes are the theme of the Summer Reading Program this year and rewards for both kids and adults are available depending on the number of books, pages and minutes of reading they complete this summer. The Summer Reading Program also celebrates and supports the Countywide Vision's literacy campaign, Vision2Read, which seeks to focus attention on the importance of reading, highlight literacy-related programs and services, and connect people to literacy resources and volunteer opportunities.

A countywide challenge is also available to children and teenagers to reach certain reading goals and they will be entered into a drawing to win prizes. Weekly performers, crafts and other fun activities are planned for everyone to enjoy.

Currently, signups are available at the library for the In-N-Out Burger Cover to Cover Challenge until April 16. Children between the ages of 4 and 12 are eligible to participate. Children unable to read may participate if a parent reads with the child. For every five books read, the child will receive a Cover to Cover Club Achievement Award good for a free hamburger or cheeseburger. Each child may earn up to three award certificates during the program while supplies last.

The San Bernardino County Library System is a dynamic network of 32 branch libraries that serves a diverse population over a vast geographic area. The County library system strives to provide equal access to information, technology, programs, and services for all people who call San Bernardino County home. The library plays a key role in the achievement of the <u>Countywide Vision</u> by contributing to educational, cultural, and historical development of our County community.

For more information on the San Bernardino County library system, please visit http://www.sbclib.org/ or call (909) 387-2220.