

**..Title**

Adopt Resolution NATIONAL LIBRARY WEEK. (Supervisor Wendy Askew)

Whereas in this past year of crisis and change, at a scale unknown in the history of public libraries in the United States, the Monterey County Free Libraries has served the County in numerous ways crucial to health, safety, education, and wellness, and;

Whereas the Monterey County Free Libraries quickly adapted early childhood development programs to the online and curbside environment, offering a robust Summer Reading Program, posting the first online storytime within two weeks of shelter in place, offering robust connectivity from library buildings, lending hot spots in partnership with the Health Department, and adapting Homework Centers to the new school environment, and;

Whereas the Monterey County Free Libraries staff gathered crucial and scientifically accurate information on transmission, worked with experts nationwide on creating a curbside checkout process, added resources to Library By Mail, sought and procured additional funding for ZipBooks, sought and procured additional funding for electronic resources, and promoted ease of access to library materials for all populations, and;

Whereas Monterey County Free Libraries never stopped answering questions, directing community members to resources on all topics, enabling educational and vocational pursuits to continue, and serving as a safe place to call for information on testing, connectivity, benefits, access, and more, and;

Whereas Monterey County Free Libraires branches and staff are serving in many Disaster Service Worker roles including hosting and managing evacuation centers for fires and floods, working for the Health Department's COVID line, staffing alternative housing, working for the Emergency Operations Center, hosting testing centers in library branches, hosting the Monterey County Food Bank, and serving over 33,000 meals to children though Lunch at the Library.

Now Therefore Be It Resolved that the Monterey County Board of Supervisors proclaims

April 4 – 10, 2021 as National Library Week

in the County of Monterey, and furthermore encourages everyone in the community to use their public libraries, physically or virtually, throughout their lives.