



Image - Noll & Tam, architects, for the City of Los Altos Council meeting, 13 March 2018

## **New Community Center**

The design development phase for the new Community Center has been completed. Construction is expected to start in summer 2019, according to the project update from the City of Los Altos on March 23rd 2018.

This means that there are likely to be only four more Friends Used Book Sales in the existing community center buildings, with the last one being in February 2019. It also means that Friends need to find alternatives to Room 7 in the Community Center, which has been the base for operations for many years. We look forward to holding sales in the new building once it is completed, but we do not expect to be able to have a permanent space there.

Friends operations and room requirements are completely dominated by the logistics of moving books. Several times each week books are cleared from the donations room in the Library and moved to room 7. The weekly volume is normally around 120 book boxes. There are often additional donations which are collected, by arrangement, so the weekly volume to be sorted ranges from 100 - 150 boxes.

On a Thursday morning, most of the boxes get moved outside the room so that there is room for people to sort, then gradually moved back inside. Sorters put books in the category boxes. Pricers allocate books 5 different ways - to ongoing sales in the Library, to online sales, to crates for storage for quarterly sales, to donation boxes, and to recycling. Ongoing sales boxes are moved back to the Library, crates stay in room 7 or are moved to the shed, donation boxes are moved outside for pickup, wheeled recycling bins are moved to the bin collection point.

We have a small number of skilled volunteers who are able and willing to move this volume of books, without whom the operation would not happen.

The ideal location for Friends would be to use additional space in the Library, like the Palo Alto and Los Gatos Friends operations. If that is not possible until we have a new Library, other alternatives are to use temporary buildings located near the Library, to look for space downtown, or to cease operations.

City council background agenda and diagrams from the March 23 update  
<https://www.losaltosca.gov/publicworks/page/community-center-news-project-updates>

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## Diving under the Antarctic ice - Tuesday April 17th, 7:30 pm at the Library

The Los Altos Library Endowment presents their annual author evening, "Speaking Volumes" on Tuesday, April 17th at 7:30 pm, in the Orchard Room at the Library.

This unique event will feature Dr. James McClintock, a Marine Biologist who has traveled over twenty times to Antarctica to do research, and even has a point of land there named after him! His illustrated presentation is titled: "Diving Under the Antarctic Ice". LALE will have his book, "Lost Antarctica" for sale, which he will be delighted to sign.



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## Calendar : May, June 2018

May 2, Board Meeting; May 4 - 6, Book Sale; May 10, General Meeting  
June 6, Board Meeting; June 10 Annual Meeting

Board meetings are held at 10:15 am in the library conference room. General meetings are held in the library with the specific room and time depending on room availability.

**Website** <https://losaltoslibraryfriends.org/> **Contact us** by email [info@losaltoslibraryfriends.org](mailto:info@losaltoslibraryfriends.org)

Friends operate the cafe in the Library. From a volunteer : "The most satisfying time is when a mother and child come up and the child picks out a lollipop and hands you a quarter and you say, 'aren't you a lucky kid to have such a wonderful mother.' Both mother and child beam!!"

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## Quote

"Even if you are on the right track, you'll get run over if you just sit there." — Will Rogers

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## Next Book Sale - Hillview Community Center May 4, 5, 6



### Our Newest Sale Category, Coffee Table Books

Although we have always sold "coffee table books" at our used book sales, they have been found in the various categories to which they belong. Recently, we have started separating out these books, and a whole collection of them will be found near the Art and Music books at our next sale. Coffee table books are often very large and full of pictures, and deal with a whole variety of subjects. They might contain gorgeous photos taken by helicopter over cities, or describe history through famous paintings. Some are whimsical, containing adorable photos of pets, while others show ingenious maps. They all entice you to browse through their pictures. Look for our new category. Every coffee table needs some books!

### Foreign Language books

While we always have hundreds of high-quality books for children, language students and fluent readers in over a dozen languages, this sale features especially large collections of fiction in Russian, Japanese and French.

The sale takes place in the Hillview Hall, the Multipurpose Room, and Room 2 at the Hillview Community Center, 97 Hillview Ave, Los Altos 94022.

Cash only, no checks or credit cards. Most of the books are for sale on Friday and Saturday at the prices marked in them; if there is no price marked, hardbacks and trade press paperbacks now cost \$2, and mass market paperbacks are \$1. Children's book pricing will be unchanged from previous sales. On Sundays \$5 buys a large grocery bag full of books, regardless of any price marks.

### Friday 4 May, 6:30 PM - 9:00 PM Members Only pre-sale event

Membership entitles admittance for 2 adults and their minor children. Membership may be purchased at the door - \$10/year. No bags, boxes, backpacks or baby strollers are allowed on Friday evening. 15 book limit at a time. Purchase books, take them outside, return to purchase more books.

### Saturday 5 May, 10:00 AM - 3:00 PM Book sale open to the public

Empty boxes and bags may be brought to the sale on Saturday. Items paid for on exit.

### Sunday 6 May, Noon - 3:00 PM Book sale open to the public

Books sold by the bag. Bags cost \$5.00. Purchase bags from a sale worker at the entry door.

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