



## FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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### Free Financial Literacy Classes at County Libraries

*Building Financial Literacy is Critical to Healthy Communities*

August 28, 2018—SANTA CRUZ, CA—The Santa Cruz Public Library System (SCPL) will offer free financial literacy classes at the Downtown Santa Cruz and Boulder Creek Branch Libraries. These programs were made possible through partnerships with three community experts, and classes cover a variety of topics to help people take charge of their financial lives.

At the Santa Cruz Downtown Library, Money Mondays is led by Financial Literacy Coach Lisa Bennet. It will be held every 4<sup>th</sup> Monday of the month from 4 – 5:15 p.m. starting September 24<sup>th</sup> and running through March 2019 with a break in December. Topics will include: uncovering your money archetype, creating a spending plan, credit and your credit score, insurance, stock market basics, and funding college.

Also at the Downtown Library, Financial Fridays run the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of every month 1 – 2 p.m. September 14<sup>th</sup> through March 2019 with a break in December. Led by Jennipher Lommen, a Certified Financial Planner, this series begins with retirement planning and covers Medicare and long term care in October and November, respectively.

Finally, another Financial Fridays series will be held on the 2<sup>nd</sup> Friday of each month, this one at the Boulder Creek Library. This series is led by Aaron Brandt, Financial Advisor, and takes place at 10:30 a.m. The series kicks off September 14<sup>th</sup> with the foundations of investing, then covers retirement by design in October, preparing for the unexpected in November, and estate planning in December.

According to Library Director Susan Nemitz, “Financial literacy is a critical skill that isn’t always taught in school or at home. Yet the ability to make financially responsible decisions is an important part of everyday life. Making sure people have these skills can help improve outcomes for our entire community.” The library is offering no-cost learning opportunities to bridge the gap in knowledge.

**ABOUT THE SANTA CRUZ PUBLIC LIBRARY SYSTEM:**

The Santa Cruz Public Libraries (SCPL) system delivers information, education, enrichment and inspiration through a network of 10 neighborhood library branches, a web-based digital library, a Bookmobile and community-based programs. SCPL serves children, teens and adults with innovative programming, professional services and community facilities that spark imagination and support discovery. Residents can explore a wide range of interests from academic research, book clubs and literacy programs to digital photography, locally-produced music and local history. Branch locations include Aptos, Boulder Creek, Branciforte, Capitola, Downtown Santa Cruz, Felton, Garfield Park, La Selva Beach, Live Oak and Scotts Valley. Learn more about SCPL at [SantaCruzPL.org](http://SantaCruzPL.org) or via Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Twitter and YouTube.

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