

COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

May-June

June 9, 2010

Acknowledgements and Recognition: This marks Vice-Chair JB Oerding's final Library Advisory Board meeting. We appreciate his insight, candor and support in the time he has been a member and wish him the best in his future pursuits.

Budget Update: Key dates are June 15-17 for a final budget meeting with the Board of Supervisors. An additional 45 positions are slated for layoff in the current fiscal scenario. The Library will support a single County IT position for ongoing direct IT support at the Branches, especially in the areas of networking and broadband/bandwidth infrastructure. Shortfalls for the Library fund County Librarian and Archives positions were authorized to be supported with reserves per Board approval. Reductions most certainly will affect PT Archives Library Assistant funding. Most of the Friends of the various Library groups have provided key resources for operations and hours and staffing. As each of the Cities experience stressors on their own budgets, the Library may experience some impacts.

Key Activities:

Woodland Public Library – work with Board on operational issues
Partner development: UC Cooperative Extension - Water forums; CA Forward community engagement and facilitated discussions with California State Library
Health Department – WIC services at Knights Landing
Village Harvest – potential fruit picker circulation at Davis
Toy Lending Library MOU with City of Davis
Floating Collection plans for media and large print
CSAC Award Nomination

1. Building Updates:

West Sacramento: Public art to be reinstalled this month. Budget for construction to close. Carpet and furnishings maintenance program under consideration.

Winters: Ice Bear installation flawed and had to be removed and sheet metal plan underneath replaced. Some minor leaks. Continual alarm/front door problems finally addressed. Carpet installation review. Smaller donor wall to be completed.. Need to institute Steering Advisory Committee regarding operations. Working on getting fiver to library to improve broadband connection. Summer hours in place.

Davis: Monitoring of electricity use by Explorit/Library needed for appropriate utility expense division. Some minor roof maintenance – owner problem. We will need to explore extension of lease through November/December for move. Renovation on schedule, due to be completed in September. Furnishings, fixtures and equipment selections made; shelving moving process in plan. Shared access along perimeter of Veterans Memorial building and sitelines reviewed with Supervisor Thomson for discussion with City about beautification plans. Automated Handling System to install in early October. Opening Day Collection selection. Timing of closures somewhat sensitive due to move and reopening and original planned winter holiday closures.

South and West Davis: Extension for Walnut Park information passed to City of Davis for their initiation. Bookdrop to be installed at Patwin Elementary as soon as location is determined.

2. General Staff Meeting – July 12, 2010 in Esparto. Library Advisory Board members are welcome to any staff meetings. Agenda includes budget, new staff, Introduction to Archives services, Reading Readiness and Family Place, Floating Collection and Collection Development and Circulation refresher.

3. Grants Update:

Getting Involved: The California State Library technical assistance has been completed. The internal staff team led by Heather Bratt with Chris Crist, Jenny Brown (HR), Julio Cota (Friends of the Esparto Regional Library President) joined by Sue Billing, Malinda Baker and Toni Mendieta, continues their work with four subteams working on crafting system supports for: recruitment and application of volunteers, selection and training, retention and incentives for participation, communication.

Opportunity Online: CSL – working with the Gates Foundation in 9 states, CA public libraries with less than 1.5 Mbps of Internet connectivity are invited to apply for a matching grant to increase bandwidth. The Gates Foundation will match connectivity charges for two years if the library provides sustainable support. Yolo and Knights Landing branches are eligible (this date moved out to January 2011) – Broadband Summit drew more than 300 directors and community influencers to Sacramento to discuss next steps of creating a statewide broadband/fiber network. – **application to be issued 1/11**

NOTE: County IT support resulted in additional Broadband application to BTOP Stimulus funding. First application denied. Second revamped application filed in spring 2010.

Digital Storytelling: The Digital Storytelling grant has come to a close. Interest from the Winters Friends for incorporating this in their 100th Anniversary Celebration will determine next steps for the use of the equipment. Congressman Mike Thompson has interest in applying for a Veterans Oral History project with Yolo County Arts Commission, the Archives, and Yolo County Historical Society that could utilize Digital Storytelling as a tool.

First 5 Yolo: The shift to incorporate Family Place models of the Parent-Child workshop to supplant the traditional parent lecture has taken place with the first set of Parent-Child workshops in Winters. Lana Harman has been hired to coordinate First 5 efforts for the Library and assist Branch Manager Sara Ferguson in implementing Family Place. Sara and Patty Wong will present a Family Place focus at the next First 5 Yolo Board meeting on June 9.

Eureka Leadership Institute – CSL – Branch Manager Crista Cannariato developed a subteam of staff to support introduction of Floating Collections to Yolo County Library. A consultant who implemented Floating Collections, Ann Cress, from Jefferson County, CO, facilitated a systemwide discussion on how it works and the benefits. Next steps will include a collection development policy, a systemwide meeting for selectors and implementation in August/September for all branches (except for Davis because of moving) initially working with media and large print materials. Grant extended until August 2011.

Family Place Learning Center – CSL – This grant opportunity seen as way to enhance system focus on parents as their child's first teacher. Materials ordered and first program implemented June 1 with 14 children and 12 families (and four fathers!).

211 Grant Kaiser Permanente Northern CA: Second and third meetings with Community Planning Council in Sacramento about PUC application and beginning MOU negotiations underway. Kim Sheppard and Dale Gilliard taking on various aspects of the grant. **Awarded 11/09 for implementation 12/1/09-11/30/10**

IMLS – Initial conversations with Dharma Realm may result in adult/family speaker series in collaboration with City of West Sacramento and SCC – West Sacramento Center.

4. HR Update:

Retirements and shifts: Cathy Lorda retired in April 2010. A replacement has been authorized with recruitment scheduled following Library Associate. Crista Cannariato will return to Davis to reassume her position of Librarian II following the hiring of the Branch Manager I for Turner (recruitment closed 6/7)

Vacancies, new hires and recruitments:

Assistant County Librarian: offer made and approval pending

Library Circulation Supervisor: Dana Christy will begin June 7

Branch Manager I (Turner): recruitment closed June 7

Library Assistant (Turner): use of existing eligibility list plus transfers and PT regular staff interest – interviews scheduled June 15/16

Library Page: recruitment to take place week of June 7

Library Associate (Turner): recruitment to take place July 2010

Librarian I/II (Children's): recruitment to take place July 2010

Although the positions are shown for vacancies in certain locations, the lists are developed to provide systemwide eligibility opportunities. Therefore all staff who are interested in advancement should apply.

Classification Study: Supervisors will now review revised job classifications and duties with all affected staff for new or addendum to performance appraisals to include new goals and objectives and staff development and training opportunities.

Staff interim changes: Susan Richter still remains a fine support at Yolo and Knights Landing. Nora Gortze is providing support for the ongoing and initial training foundations for staff. Dale Gilliard is providing assistance with coordination of 211 Kaiser Permanente Grant efforts. Marylin Thompson is reviewing our internal document structure and revamping.

5. 100th Anniversary – Shift in emphasis to key celebrations at each branch, traveling display, and 100th Anniversary showcase at Friends of the Archives/Library focus at Yolo County Fair, August 19-22.

Logo design completed. August 1 date postponed to the future. Some fundraising around other 100 Anniversary organizations and Friends groups. Team members include Mary Stephens DeWall, Chair, Rebecca Fridae, Rie Surad, Roberta Stevenson, Andrea Jones, Mel Russell, Marilyn Corcoran, Flora Tanji Peggy Epstein and AGS Consulting (business fraternity from UC Davis. Former State Librarian Gary Strong is interested in lending his support.

LIBRARY IN THE NEWS

It continues to be an exciting and creative time for the Yolo County Library, and a pleasure to work with a great staff and a talented team of community advocates.

Patty Wong, County Librarian

KEY DATES TO REMEMBER

June 7, 2010 – Dana Christy – Library Circulation Supervisor begins; Branch Manager I recruitment closes

June 9, 2010 – Sara Ferguson and Patty Wong, Presentation for First 5 Yolo Board on Family Place
June 11, 2010 – CSAC Awards Nomination due
June 24-30, 2010 – American Library Association Annual Conference, Washington DC
July 12, 9-5 p.m. Winters Community Library – All Staff meeting – libraries closed to the public
July 23, half day, location to be announced – tentative Community Engagement and Facilitation training with California State Library and CA Forward
August 3, 2010 Board of Supervisors meeting to acknowledge 100th Anniversary
August 11, 2010 Next LAB meeting
mid-August – perhaps August 16, 2010 – Assistant County Librarian begins
August 19-22, 2010 – Yolo County Fair – Joint Friends of the Yolo County Archives/Library 100th Anniversary booth – need volunteers to participate
September 30, 2010 – Davis renovation expected to be completed
October 10, 2010 – Friends/Library 100th Anniversary Celebration in West Sacramento
November 14, 2010 – Friends/Library 100th Anniversary Celebration in Winters