

COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

September-October

October 8, 2014

We welcome new Library Advisory Board member for District 2 – **Desmond Jolly** – his nomination for the LAB was approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 9.

Library Budget Update: The budget for 2014-2015 was approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 23 with one significant revision and an increase in the position Full Time Equivalent for our department:

- The Public Defender has removed a total of 1620 boxes from the County Records Center for digitization. This represents a loss of **\$30,000** in revenue for FY 14-15. This funding was restored with the goals of establishing a new business model for digitizing records on demand as a County Records Center service. Meredith Sarmento is developing the plan now.
- With the upcoming retirement of a .60 FTE Librarian II, the Board approved restoring this position to 1.0 FTE.

The staff continues to champion efforts to reduce spending and realign resources and create efficiencies:

- With the approval of the new organizational model (within classification and MOU specifications) Library leadership hopes to enable deployment to cover open hours at other units and provide a stronger systemwide network of support and resources.
- Integrate budget planning and strategic goal setting with stronger staff engagement.
- Friends will provide approximately **\$58,000** in materials support in FY 2014-15
- The one shift model implementation at Winters during Summers will continue. A 15-hour/week Library Assistant position (Winters Joint Unified) is in the budget for implementation this fiscal year to support operations during the school year (approx.**\$10,000**). The School Board is scheduled to review this item during their November 20 meeting.
- Consider one shift model at other branch facilities; the Clarksburg staff has implemented a community survey to determine best hours of service.
- Continue cost sharing at joint use facilities and explore additional funding from those resources as possible.
- Security services at the Turner Community Library will be evaluated for effectiveness.
- Continue to seek grants and alternative funding for enhancement and support of services – a second year of designated AB109 funding through the Community Corrections Partnership was approved on September 23

to support staffing for adult literacy services at the day reporting centers in Woodland and West Sacramento **(\$11,000)**.

- Maintain great relationship with Davis, West Sacramento and Winters for their continued support
- 211 Yolo: seek support from the city of Winters and increased funding from Davis and West Sacramento and explore support from combined Health and Human Services efforts (DESS, Public Health and ADMH)
- Continue to collaborate with County and City jurisdictions and community partners for local and countywide efforts
- Maintain \$0 reliance on State resources
- Establish Finance Committee at Library Advisory Board

County Archives and Records Center Update: Library intern and MLIS student (SJSU) Jason Bell recently joined the team of volunteers. Archives and Records Center staff Meredith Sarmento and Alicia Dominguez participated in the Historic Stroll and prepared the work for the Friends of the County Archives annual participation at the Yolo County Fair as well as deployed the Public Defender request for complete removal of their files.

Yolo Reads and Adult Literacy efforts: The Yolo Reads annual celebration was held at the Stephens Davis Branch Library on September 25 from 6-8 p.m. Supervisor Don Saylor led the team to greet and congratulate the adult learners, tutors and their families. Sandra Rodriguez, Assistant to Supervisor Provenza and Andrew Benware, representing Senator Lois Wolk were also on hand to recognize the accomplishments of the learners and tutors and provided certificates from the Yolo County Board and Senator Wolk's office. Each learner provided a key story about their experience, including a 15 year old young woman who tearfully shared the extreme pride in her grandmother's growth as a reader, her grandmother's developing confidence, strength and courage.

Human Resources: The new Library organization is now approved and in place. Two new staff will be joining the YCL team in October:

Alicia Doktor – Librarian II – Youth Services programming and outreach. Ms. Doktor comes to Yolo County from Riverside County where she was branch manager and specialized in reaching underserved communities, partnership development, and working with teens. She has a basic understanding of Spanish and has extensive programming experience. She will be based out of the West Yolo Region, working at the Davis Branch Library.

David Tavaréz – Librarian I – Virtual Services. Mr. Tavaréz comes to Yolo County from Sacramento Public Library where he was responsible for technology training and skill development for the Central Library. His daily activities included reference and community service, help desk support for staff and customers in the areas of technology use and occasional programming. He will be based out

of the East Yolo Region, working at the Turner Community Library in West Sacramento.

Changes anticipated in the next six months:

Karen Priester retired in September 2014 after 23 years of service. She was a key member of the Davis Branch Library team filling a key role in many areas as a critical behind the scenes activator. Karen was responsible for much of the clerical development of service in the branch, implementing new and effective approaches to processing and maintaining access to the periodical collection, maintaining supplies orders, working to troubleshoot customer complaints, while contributing great ideas to strengthen service. Karen was a strong representative of the library assistants on all fronts – she served for many years as the employee association representative for the Library and worked to make sure staff voices were heard within the Library and the local. The Library will fill the position with a full time Library Assistant.

Deatra Cohen will be retiring in November 2014 after 10 years of service. She has brought a strong sense of community development and work with area teens during her tenure and provided essential work in developing The Spot – a joint service provided by City of Davis Teen Services staff and the Library to provide after school enrichment for area tweens. Deatra developed exceptional partnership and bonds with community leaders. She had insight into value-added services for the system and was a strong advocate for youth development and an asset model of service, forming a foundation of Yolo County Library's value system today. The Library will fill the position with a full time librarian focused on services for adults.

Sara Ferguson will be retiring at the end of December 2014 after 30 years of service. She has been the lynchpin in the ongoing successful operations of the Rural Branches and a key member of the library's Management Team. During Sara's tenure, the new Winters Community Library became a reality, ADA renovations at the Clarksburg Branch were realized, the rural branches moved from a volunteer model to paid staff services, the rural branches developed strong library leadership within staff and the various Friends organizations, and services in each of the branches have dramatically improved and been refined. Sara has been a strong proponent of the unique communities within the system philosophy and this perspective has been a critical factor in the design and development of the new library organization. The Library will fill the position with a full time Administrative Analyst. Sara's strengths in project management, research and analysis and administrative support for key library functions will be the focus of the new staffer.

Recruitment: The Library is currently in process with the following recruitments:

Library Assistant: Candidates will be taking a written examination to determine the best qualified during the week of October 6.

Library Regional Supervisor: Candidates will engage in a first interview on October 3 with finalists providing a presentation to all staff on October 20, followed by a second interview panel.

Library Regional Manager: Applicant review now underway.

Friends Update

Friends of the Yolo Branch Library

The Annual meeting of the Friends was held on September 16 and highlighted election of officers and the organization's new nonprofit status and a community call for volunteers and activism towards a refreshed service in the Yolo service area.

President	Meg Sheldon
Vice President	Sara Andrade
Secretary	Marcia Faris
Treasurer	Priscilla Bolinder (Woodland)
Members at Large	Jim Adan
	Larry (Joe) Cruz
	Tina Day
	Yolanda Sue Gruwell (Dunnigan)
	Bonnie Weiss

Mary Jo Hoes (Zamora) will remain on the Grants Committee and liaison to the Board

Brochures advertising the Friends, complete minutes and a website – www.friendsofyololibrary.org is now established with a link on the Library's website. The website developer is Kitty Schlosser.

South Davis update: The South Davis Ad Hoc Committee crafted a bilingual survey that was administered over the summer 2014. While the team is interested in perhaps moving beyond the 100 respondents to get a broader sample, several indicators became apparent:

- There is a lack of community awareness of public library service at the Marguerite Montgomery Elementary location
- Services are limited in terms of hours, materials offered and programming

- The community indicated that community meeting space and early literacy programs would be a priority if a stand-alone facility was available

A report is being prepared by the Committee to be shared with the Board at a December meeting to naturally follow space planning recommendations presentation currently scheduled for December 2.

Yolo County Collaboration Tactic Update/Yolo NonProfit Leaders Alliance:

The Library presented an update to the Board of Supervisors on September 23, featuring the doctoral work of Marco Ramirez who received his Ph.D from the Sol Price School of Public Policy at USC. Dr. Ramirez studied collaboration using Yolo County as a focus, analyzing a survey of staff from the Planning and Public Works, Health and Library Departments with a 31% response rate. Findings are attached to this report.

There are several pieces to the Collaborate to Maximize Success, fondly known as Yolaborate! Emphasizing the Yolo County way of collaboration: Yolaborate – an online collaboration tool, NonProfit Leaders Alliance (NPLA), Yolo County Youth Development Coalition, and the Yolo County Broadband Strategic Plan. Library Regional Manager Rachel Wolf is capably leading the NPLA effort and the development of the Yolaborate tool. The County Librarian is focused on the Youth Development Coalition and the Broadband Plan. The Yolaborate Employee Working Group members are: Rachel Wolf (LIB), Sally Fredericksen (PD), Anna Sutton (Health), Kyle Gohn (ITD), Craig Walker (DA), Val Manning (HR), Hoa Tan (PPWES), Patty Wong (LIB)

NonProfit Leaders Alliance: NPLA continues to meet monthly, with major planning in the future to include additional training for nonprofits, capacity building and networking. Rachel Wolf and key NPLA members will seek ways to develop internal leadership and funding mechanisms (with Yolo Community Foundation as a key partner) to continue the work.

Yolaborate: The Library received Pomona funds (\$11,000) to complete the majority of data entry of collaboration examples throughout the County. The data included most County departments as well as work coordinated through the CAO's office in the area of Youth Services. The programming and design work is produced by Kyle Gohn (ITD) and Craig Walker (DA) with significant input from Rachel Wolf (LIB) and the members of the Yolaborate Employee Working Group. The online tool will be demonstrated to the Board of Supervisors at their October 21 meeting.

Yolo County Youth Development Coalition: Following the Library's extensive training and Youth Development Institute (YDI) modeling within the culture of service development, the Coalition is now turning to develop community wide opportunities for this training among key learning arenas beginning with

Woodland. A YDI will be held January/February 2015, open to 40 participants, eight teams of five. Funds have been committed to the effort from Yolo County Office of Education, UC Davis Early Academic Opportunities Program, County Probation, RISE Inc. and the Library. An application process will be announced in late October, early November.

The Youth Development Institute opportunities will then provide cultural and institutional support for staff at all levels to work in a youth centered environment. We hope that such support will lead into active engagement with other community agencies to mirror the language and action of youth development throughout Yolo County as a model of service

Broadband Strategic Plan: A draft plan has been crafted by Magellan, the consultants engaged to conduct the community-wide survey and analysis of broadband service, gaps and needs, and potential funding strategies. Christine Crawford of LAFCo is heading up the project which includes representatives from the County (ITD and Library) and the IT leads from the cities of Davis, West Sacramento, Winters and Woodland.

LIBRARY IN SERVICE: The fires in our northern CA communities have impacted sister libraries. The Weed Branch of the Siskiyou County Library was completely burned. YCL staff jumped into action and is saving children's materials donated and gently used for re-use in Weed. Friends groups are encouraged to designate a portion of their proceeds of fundraising if possible to the Weed restoration effort to purchase needed equipment not covered by insurance. The County Librarian is working on a small advisory team with the Siskiyou County Library leadership for additional support. For coordination of physical material donations, the community is directed to Wayne Walker at Walker, Wayne wwalker@califa.org

For monetary donations:

Weed Library Rebuild c/o Vestal Foundation
PO Box 117
Yreka, CA 96097

LIBRARY IN THE NEWS

Staff members Sally Hirst and Dana Christy received scholarships to attend the Association of Small and Rural Libraries in Tacoma, WA in September 2014.

Elizabeth Gray provided key presentations on early literacy and technology assessments at the national Association for Library Service to Children National Institute held in Oakland, CA in September 2014.

Design Thinking Team members Sue Billing, Crista Cannariato, Gail Stovall with assistance from Val Manning (HR) presented a training on Design Thinking with San Jose Public Library and Rancho Cucamonga Library colleagues at the first 2014 San Jose Public Library Minicon, a half day conference of staff driven training ranging from unconference topics to workplace wellness and teen engagement. The Minicon was held at the San Jose Convention Center in September 2014 with more than 400 SJPL employees present.

Patty Wong has been nominated to run for Chapter Councilor for the California Library Association Board. Elections are underway. Patty has also been asked to provide a keynote on advocacy at the Hawaii Library Association in December 2014.

**“ Yolo County Library provides access for all to ideas
that inform, entertain and inspire.”**

We connect people and ideas.