

COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

January-February

February 8, 2012

Library Budget Update: The County as a whole is anticipating less funding locally due to several factors. This in addition to uncertain labor costs (almost all employee association agreements are subject to renegotiation within the next six to nine months), will impact the County bottom line. These factors will not impede filling the current vacant positions scheduled to be replaced – the Catalog position and the Archives Coordinator, but there may be unforeseen delays in the other positions. The strategic plan is on track and will coincide with the County 's process. The Library's goals to expand the requested increased service to Yolo and Knights Landing communities will be determined in part through this planning process. Results may require additional staffing allocations to open additional hours and will be part of the budget requests submitted to the Board of Supervisors at the scheduled presentation in May. In addition, we hope to request permission for an allocated technology future fund and an allocated development fund to plan for needed improvements to the Integrated Library System, upgrades to existing equipment, and to meet new and ongoing technology and operational needs. Redevelopment dissolutions will have no impact on library pass throughs and other dedicated library funding.

ALA Mid-winter meeting: Interim Archives Coordinator Analu Josephides represented Yolo County at the ALISE conference preceding ALA as a panel of distinguished speakers discussing the use of indigenous peoples story telling methods as part of learning curricula in teaching environments. County Librarian Patty Wong led two ALA-wide conversations on engaging library professionals to consider ways to engage their respective communities and to then shift service models to become more community centered.

Strategic Plan:

The Library's Strategic Planning process is under way, beginning with a kickoff at the All-Staff meeting on January 30.

The Library will engage community input through:

- Strategic media releases and articles in local newspapers and other media
- Online and social media surveys including questions floated on Facebook
- Community Conversations by invitation to key stakeholders (March 19, 2-5 p.m., Woodland Senior Center)
- Staff Conversation for all staff (March 19, 8:30-11:30 a.m., Davis Branch Library)
- Focus groups
- One to one interviews with identified key individuals

Library staff also conducted county-wide research of existing visioning/planning documents from a variety of local agencies and city and County processes. The Library will coordinate the Strategic Planning process with the County's efforts. Findings will also be coordinated with the release of a major publicity document focusing on the past three years of library activities. The Library is also responsible for coordinating the tactical planning for the County goal: Collaboration to maximize success.

211 Services: 211 Yolo was launched on January 17, 2012. Preliminary statistics from soft launch efforts in December yielded an initial small portion of calls. 57% of the callers originated in Woodland, 35% from West Sacramento and 17% from Davis. Call requests focused on TANF, CalFresh and other subsidized funding support as well as for information on food, PG and E and rental and housing support, and tax information. 211 Outreach Coordinator Adelita Serena is planning a targeted promotion to all County departments, regular kiosk service at DESS waiting areas, senior service agencies, YoloBus and UniTrans bus ads and much more. Materials are available in English, Spanish and Russian.

Yolo County Library in the News

- On January 27, more than 75 people attended Yolo County's first Spanish language book fair! Thousands of new and popular titles in Spanish for adults and children, including movies and music, were on display for the day-long event at the Davis Branch Library. More than a dozen library systems were represented; the farthest traveler came from South Lake Tahoe. At least a dozen Spanish immersion teachers and school librarians and local Davis residents and families attended, reviewed materials and placed orders. The six vendors, from New York, New Jersey, Pennsylvania, Colorado, Madera, and San Jose, CA, were all excited and want to participate again – perhaps annually! Library systems who attended included: El Dorado County, Colusa County, Sonoma County, Napa City/County, Orland Free Library, Solano County, Woodland Public Library, Sacramento Public Library, UC Davis, Davis Joint Unified, Woodland Joint Unified, Winters Joint Unified, and of course Yolo County. This book fair really demonstrated a strong need for continued collaboration and the lack of resources for Spanish speakers in the Sacramento region and north. The program was co-sponsored by Yolo County Library with REFORMA, the National Association to Promote Library & Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish Speaking – the local chapter is CA Gold, based in the Sacramento area but covering our community up to the Oregon border. Many thanks to the Davis Branch staff and all of the Spanish language selectors for making this event a success. Staff contact: Patty Wong

- Nominated by Davis Branch Library Branch Manager Jay Johnstone, James Angus Chandler has won the coveted 2011-2012 Chancellor's Achievement Award for Diversity and Community. He is a researcher in the Evolution & Ecology Department at UC Davis. Dr. Chandler is a recipient of this award in part because of his community activism. He is the lead of the Big Read: Open Access Science, a community wide book discussion of *Here Is A Human Being* by Misha Angrist, chronicling the first human genome participant. The Big Read, co-sponsored by the Yolo County Library, will include programs held at Yolo County Library branches as follows: Esparto on February 8; Davis on February 15; Winters on February 23; Davis on March 14. Author Misha Angrist will be featured on March 7 from 7:00-9:00 p.m. at the Davis Branch Library. Staff contact: Jay Johnstone
- You are invited to join the Yolo County Library's Facebook page. Learn more about your favorite authors and find out about free, family-friendly events. Go to Facebook and search for "yolocountylibrary.org". Staff contact: Elizabeth Gray