

# COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

## January-February

February 19, 2014

Happy New Year!

### Library Budget Update:

- The two DESS initiatives have been submitted and the Library is hopeful to hear if the proposal is accepted, especially for the One-Stop services. There is some concern about eligibility of all participants as DESS has proposed using CalWin funds which would require proof of low income status. The Library could create a sign up list for eligible customers and offer workshops to all others.
- Three grants focused on enhanced technology (new computers, a laptop circulation program, and enhanced job and employment databases) have been submitted to the County for Pomona Funds. One grant was submitted for Pomona Funds on behalf of the Library's engagement with the Collaboration to Maximize Success Tactical Plan to complete the Yolaborate software application to showcase County programs and services focused on collaboration.
- Two SJSU School of Library and Information Science master's students are working to write grants on behalf of the Library – Felisa Yang is working with Yolo Reads to focus on integrating early literacy services within the comprehensive literacy model. Faylene Keep is working with the Friends of the Yolo Branch Library to showcase library services and develop support for the new construction needs.
- Each of the Friends organizations are working on comprehensive plans for their respective budgets which provide close to \$75,000 collectively in annual support for programs, materials and staff training.
- The Library plans to meet with Superintendent Brent Cushenbery (Winters) and City Manager John Donlevy to discuss the 2014 school year MOU and support. A Library Advisory Coordinating Committee meeting will be held following this negotiation to ratify any changes in hours and services.
- The Library's consortium, NorthNet Library Systems, invited Yolo County Library to be one of several rural libraries participating in a pay as you go interlibrary loan program, where requested materials might be printed on demand or

### Broadband

Magellan is the consultant hired to craft the County Broadband plan. They have held several meetings throughout the County with large and small groups and plan a future fact finding visit in March. Two surveys – one for residents and one

for businesses have been distributed through library channels in print as well as virtually. More than 500 surveys have been completed, many representing the Esparto community.

Plans to support increased bandwidth access at Marguerite Montgomery Elementary continue. The Library is also meeting with the Friends of the Esparto Regional Library to identify higher speed internet options for planned classes and community support.

### **ALA Update**

County Librarian Patty Wong attended the American Library Association Midwinter Conference in Philadelphia from January 24-29. Highlights included signing of the Declaration for the Right to Libraries by Philadelphia school and public library leadership and the Pennsylvania State Library, a workshop on how to create a TEDx program in your library, establishment of a new Lemony Snicket award, the Harry Potter Alliance, and the announcement of the Youth Media Awards. ALA has received a grant from IMLS to create a Center for the Future of the Library. A prefatory Summit, hosted by ALA President Barbara Stripling and the Library of Congress – “Libraries From Now On – Imagining the Future” to be held on May 2-3, preceding National Legislation Day on May 5-6. County Librarian Patty Wong has been invited to participate in this event as co-Chair of President Stripling’s initiative.

### **Friends Update**

Library leadership is meeting with the various Friends organizations as they elect new board members and new organizational leaders and host their respective annual meetings.

- The Friends of the County Archives have lost some long time members. Claire Starkey passed away recently. Anne Scheuring is stepping down after many years of service and Ted Smith is retiring as President. Tom Crisp will be assuming the lead role.
- The Friends of the Clarksburg Library are in the midst of renovating the building’s bathroom for ADA compliance and are changing their bylaws. The renovation will impact access to the computer area and meeting room and will take approximately four months, with a projected completion by Summer 2014. The Friends are also planning virtual promotion of the digitized photos for reproduction on demand and sale.
- The Friends of the Davis Public Library held their annual meeting in late January and continue to raise significant dollars and membership through their bimonthly booksale and the daily sales in the alcove area. The Friends have voted to support the establishment of Little Free Libraries in Davis, Yolo, and Knights Landing.

- The Friends of the Esparto Regional Library are working with staff to provide support for a focused community computer class experience replete with new furnishings and enhanced internet access.
- The Friends of the Knights Landing Library informally met at the community dinner on February 2 and continue their support of the Library's heating needs.
- The Winters Friends of the Library will host their annual retreat on February 22 to plan service and program priorities and will be working with staff and the Winters Joint Unified School District and the Yolo Housing Authority to host a community computer fair to bring low cost wifi equipment to Winters families through a collaboration with Computers for Classrooms. If successful, we hope to bring this work to other areas of Yolo County. The Friends recently supported the purchase of two laptops to replace the well-worn equipment originally obtained when the branch first opened and will host two Little Free Libraries.
- The Friends of the West Sacramento Library continue to raise funds through their booksale. Alcove sales continue to be strong, rivaling booksale income. Susan Martimo is the new treasurer as long-time treasurer Larry Wyneken has retired from his post.

### **Yolo Branch Library Update**

Articles of Incorporation have been filed with the Secretary of State and require some revision. The Friends will then file bylaws and complete the 501 (c) (3) process. The local community dinner in late January generated some additional interest in membership and Yolo Branch Library services. A fundraiser is being planned in collaboration with the Cache Creek High School annual egg hunt in April. The several Friends subcommittees are hard at work, meeting monthly. Minutes and information on each activity can be found on the Friends website: <http://www.friendsofyololibrary.org/>

### **Design Thinking**

A joint meeting of the three library systems involved – San Jose Public Library, Rancho Cucamonga, and Yolo County Library - in late January has resulted in the potential idea for additional funding and support to pilot three more systems. Yolo County would receive up to \$15,000 to facilitate design thinking in our own system while mentoring one of three additional libraries in the same process. Funding would be made possible through a PITCH grant sponsored by Califa to the California State Library.

### **HR**

Substitute Librarian – second interviews conducted  
Library Assistant (.50 FTE Records Center and substitute list established) – first interviews in process

Vacancies: After 20 years of employment with the County, Peggy Rollins will be retiring effective March 15, 2014. During her tenure she was active in regional children's work through the Mountain Valley Library System, planning summer reading efforts and other critical youth programs. She served on the Library's Migration Team moving the library's databases to a web-based platform, recognized for the 2005 County Employee Team Award. Peggy worked with other key youth services staff to implement the systemwide award-winning Dia de los Ninos/Dia de los Libros programs and sign language translation for deaf and hard of hearing community members as part of the County's story time offerings among other key youth services. We thank Peggy for her work and wish her well in retirement. We will be filling this vacancy as soon as possible.

Librarian I/II – Turner – in process

Branch Manager II – Davis – in design working with HR

Margaret Kaplan has been hired to fill the .60 FTE Branch Library Supervisor position at Clarksburg.

211 Yolo intern – in second recruitment.

## **211 Services**

See attached annual report.

## **Yolo County Library In the News**

- On February 11, the Yolo County Library hosted the third annual Spanish Language Book Fair, featuring six book and materials vendors from across the country. More than 40 librarians, teachers, parents, children and interested community members attended the Fair at the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library, and viewed hundreds of the best Spanish language materials for children, teens and adults; fiction and nonfiction; from picture books to poetry, cooking to learning English, fixing cars and parenting to the latest biography of noted international leaders. The Spanish Language Book Fair, sponsored by Yolo County and the CA Gold Chapter of REFORMA, the largest professional association in the world dedicated to the information and library needs of Latinos and the Spanish speaking, is designed as a resource service to bring Spanish language materials to communities for counties throughout Northern California from Stockton to the Oregon border. The Fair drew representative from more than seven counties, selecting and ordering materials for their respective Spanish speaking families, and learning how to use those materials effectively from vendor advisors as well as attending colleagues. Considerations for future Fairs might include book talking techniques, use of nonfiction with adults, and modeling sharing children's materials.
- On February 13, as one of several planning representatives, the Yolo County Library participated in the 10th Annual Words Take Wing program. This landmark program, led by the UC Davis School of Education in league with a host of other sponsors, features a multicultural author or illustrator and brings children from throughout the Sacramento region to UC Davis to experience the words and art of children's literature, meet an author or illustrator and become inspired to their own creative greatness. Greater than 1,300 children from the region attended a packed Freeborn Hall, including classes from Davis, West Sacramento, Winters and Woodland. The featured authors were Andrea Davis Pinkney and Brian Pinkney, a married author/illustrator team from New York with more than 50 children's books under their belt collectively, with many recent award winners. The Library is pleased to be a part of this team bringing an introduction and exposure to multiethnic authors and illustrators to our community's children and encouraging their continued love of reading from

a multicultural context. The authors visit local agencies, area hospitals – a prior author, Margarita Engle visited the Turner Community Library in West Sacramento.

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

Tagline: We connect people and ideas.