

COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT

November-December

December 9, 2015

Library Advisory Board update: Library leadership and the LAB would like to welcome Anthony Wright to the Library Advisory Board. Anthony represents Supervisor Don Saylor and his nomination was approved October 27.

Library Budget Update:

1. The Board approved to support efforts to refinance the existing Community Facilities District No. 1989-1 (Davis Branch Library) to achieve a minimum 3-5% savings. The bond sale took place late in October. The County received 6 bids with Robert Baird submitting the lowest true interest cost (TIC) bid of 2.82%. After restructuring, the TIC is 2.81%, which is a very low rate for a 22-year financing. Robert Baird's bid is \$64,182 better than the runner-up, and \$243,026 better than the last place bid.

With these great results, the County will save over \$1.6 million from refinancing the 2002 and 2008 Special Tax Bonds in total (net of all financing costs). On a net present value basis, this is over \$1.2 million or over 18% savings combined! This is much higher than the estimate of \$826,563 in the Debt Committee presentation; this stellar result is a direct reflection of the upgrade on the CFD Bonds. During the sale, the bonds received a credit rating upgrade by Standard & Poors to "AA" from "AA-". These savings will begin with the first debt service payment on May 1, 2016.

Strategic Plan (Yolo County and the Library):

The County has embarked on a three year plan (2016-1019) focused on: Thriving Residents, Safe Communities, Sustainable Environment, Flourishing Agriculture. Note that Robust Economy has been tied to Flourishing Agriculture.

The Library is most closely involved in those three key goals:

Thriving Residents: Social, economic and physical environments are created and supported which promote good health and protect vulnerable populations so that community members and future generations have the opportunity to learn and grow to their full potential (**learning and personal development, collaboration**)

Safe Communities: Safe communities are maintained through cross-system collaborations that focus on prevention, utilize evidence-based strategies for treatment and intervention, provide legal representation and ensure code enforcement of unsafe conditions (**identity and address service delivery and critical infrastructure needs in unincorporated communities – flood, sewer, water, broadband, sustainable road strategy**)

Flourishing Agriculture: Support a vibrant and resilient agricultural economy that concurrently preserves sufficient farmland to maintain regional food security in perpetuity (**workforce development, tourism promotion, broadband, enhanced adult learning and education**)

Facility Study and Capital Improvements Update

1. **County Courthouse reoccupancy:** County General Services, TAB (compact shelving specialist), Barclay Ogden, preservation consultant, engineers and architects from the County contracted Kitchell company toured and assessed the Courthouse for Archives use on October 16.
2. **Yolo Branch Library – new facility –** The Friends of the Yolo Branch Library annual meeting drew about 20 community members including at least 5 teens to meet architect Doug Davis and to learn about the community based process for determining library needs. On September 29 and 30 Penny Hummel, Library Building Consultant and Doug Davis met with about 15 community members and a host of county, library staff and county leadership in a series of meetings. A Community Advisory Group will be created composed of 10-15 community members. Doug Davis will be meeting in a separate meeting with youth boys and girls to review the process. IN PROCESS
3. **Exploration of additional library needs in Davis –** LAB members Sharon Hallberg and Holly Bishop presented the attached South Davis Library Services Ad Hoc Committee report. The Board approved the recommendations to thank the Committee for its work, accept the report and instruct Library staff to engage committee members and others in a comprehensive Facilities Master Plan based on the Jacobs report and recommendations for library service needs throughout the County. APPROVED
4. **Knights Landing roof –** the recent duct work exposed critical framing and structural needs – no date established for work yet. The Knights Landing Friends have offered to support painting of the facility as well. PENDING
5. **Davis HVAC and roof –** during the remodel, the HVAC and roof were deemed intact; recent inspections during pest control prevention activities

indicated some work may be necessary. No date established for work yet.
PENDING

6. **Solar panel lease/purchase** – An independent solar specialist assessed existing panels and output and determined that the asking price to purchase the library mounted solar panels was a little high. Terry Vernon and Chris Crist will negotiate a price to purchase and integrate with existing solar program or will continue leasing with a plan to engage a possible third party for operations and maintenance. PROGRESSING
 7. **Winters CIP planning** – a projected Capital Improvements Program was never actualized with the Winters Joint Unified School District and joint planning is needed as the District moves into facility planning priorities with the facilities bond. Library leadership will bring this up with Interim Superintendent Todd Cutler. APPOINTMENT IN PROCESS
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Grants Review

1. Staff Innovation Fund Pitch Grants: All in progress
 - a. With Woodland Public Library: Mobile Outreach Bike materials are on order – Dana Christy leads for YCL.
 - b. FUNDED BackPREP Touger Vang is organizing materials to order and will work on identifying 30 students soon. (West Sacramento, River City High School as partner)
 - c. DIY History: Jason Bell hired as PT Library Assistant to support the program. Jason is an MLIS candidate with SJSU School of Information. He is an instructional assistant with Napa Valley College Learning Services as well as a long term volunteer for Yolo County Archives, digitizing the extensive obituary newspaper clippings. Jason also worked at Sonoma League for Historic Preservation and has conducted reference and research in the County Archives. He began work in the DIY History project on September 27.
 2. The First 5 Yolo community grant of \$130,500 for intentional bilingual storytime, providing books for home libraries and strategic parent education will be delivered immediately through September 2018.
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- The debut showing of “Inventing America: Conversations with the Founders” at the Arthur F. Turner Community Library on October 29 was a success, with more than 20 people viewing the first episode titled “Making a Nation: The Untold Story of the Declaration of Independence (1776)”. The audience included newly arrived refugees wanting to expand their knowledge on the Declaration of Independence. This program was brought to West Sacramento through the support of Supervisor Villegas, the Friends of the West Sacramento Library and library staff. Staff contact: Touger Vang

- The Read to Succeed Conference on October 29 at the Woodland Senior & Community Center had a great turnout with more than 130 people attending. This conference brought attention to the need for early literacy for all children, with presentations from model programs: Talk, Read, Sing; West Sacramento Universal Preschool Program; Yolo County Library; Woodland Public Library; and Yolo Food Bank. The conference also had keynote speakers Lenny Mendonca from and Margaret Brodtkin who both educated and challenged the audience to put children first. Sponsors and committee members included the Yolo County Library, Yolo County Office of Education, Woodland United Way, United Way California Capital Region, First 5 Yolo and Yolo Farm to Fork. Staff contact: Patty Wong
- The Yolo County Library is bringing Voluntary Income Tax Assistance (VITA) to the branches in January which brings free tax return preparation to the public. The goal is to teach and help families and individuals keep more of their tax dollars, build assets and ensure all credits/benefits are being received. The Yolo County Library will be collaborating with Health & Human Services, Yolo County Children's Alliance and RISE to bring this amazing program to all the library branches. Staff contact: Rachel Hudson
- The Yolo County Library is working with the Yolo Food Bank to support food distribution in the town of Yolo. With the recent closure of the community center, the Yolo County Food Bank lost a vital distribution site. Beginning this month, to centralize service, the Yolo Branch will adjust open hours to accommodate Food Bank distribution and the two other monthly community fresh produce distributions led by the Yolo Family Resource Center. Staff contact: She Billing
- The Yolo Branch star gazing event on October 16 drew more than 80 people. The combination of events was perfect – local astronomer Dr. Bill Richter shared slides about studies of Jupiter using a telescope mounted in a 737, while participants took to the night sky to look through multiple telescopes pointed at different stars and the moon. Dr. Richter included engaging comments about the major constellations and their mythology in his presentation. The program offered an opportunity for all ages to explore our universe in an intimate setting. Yolo is a particularly ideal location for this type of programming in a rural community with a clear view of our skies and limited ambient light from neighbors. Many attendees came from Yolo, but the event attracted people from Zamora, Davis, West Sacramento and Sacramento. Staff contact: Sue Billing
- In honor of the memory of long time West Sacramento artist and activist, Betty Fairbairn Turner Vogel Sokolich, the West Sacramento Friends of the Library will host a series of art classes at the Arthur F Turner Community Library. Julie Karlonas will be demonstrating and teaching mono-type printmaking on October 31 from 11:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m. Betty Sokolich was the artist who created the magnificent stained glass piece "Yoloy" prominently displayed as you enter the Turner Community Library foyer. If you haven't come to the Library to see the magnificent public art, it is worth the trip! Staff contact: Touger Vang
- The Knights Landing Branch Library was outfitted with 1-gigabyte broadband internet access on 10/28. Customers and staff are delighted with the exceptional speed and the ability to accomplish many searches and tasks quickly and effectively with no dropped access or

delays. Many thanks to Tom Bates and his team in IT for their support and interaction with AT&T. Staff contact: Elizabeth Gray

- For the past six weeks, families who are involved in the probation system have been meeting at the Arthur F. Turner Community Library in a pilot program to encourage reading together as a family. Deputy Probation Officer Zach Grounds is leading the program with support from Librarians Touger Vang and Maria Arcorace and Ready for Kindergarten Specialist Dolly Antayhua-Heller. In support of reunifying the family, probationers with children are referred to the program and staff share models and ideas about the importance of and how to read with their children and a host of other early literacy activities. Participants obtain library cards and are introduced to a variety of extended library programs and services to build on those family literacy skills. The adults learn about becoming stronger parents and reinvest in their role as their child's first teacher. The children benefit from closer ties with their parents and the family's support for early literacy is reinforced, a key factor in stemming the tide of recidivism as a family norm. Those adults with low level reading skills are supported to build up their skills and confidence. Reunification and family engagement is tough for our adults returning to family life from incarceration. Many have a hard time with commitment, but for the families who do participate, the reward is great. This first cohort within the Families Together program will graduate on November 2 in a small ceremony from 4:00 to 6:00 p.m. at the Arthur F. Turner Community Library. Many thanks to Chief Brent Cardall who brought the idea of this program from his San Benito days. Staff contacts: Touger Vang, Maria Arcorace and Zach Grounds
- The sale of the 2015 Special Tax Revenue Bonds of the 1989-1 Community Facilities District (Davis Branch Library), which are refunding the current outstanding 2002 and 2008 bonds, occurred on October 27. This bond sale was approved by the Board of Supervisors on September 29. During the sale, the bonds received a credit rating upgrade by Standard & Pools to "AA" from "AA-". Based on a combination of the upgrade in credit rating and strong market conditions, the result of the sale is a true interest cost of 2.82% which is an excellent rate on the 22 year financing. With this positive result, the refunding will save the County Library approximately \$1.2 million (in today's dollars) net of the issuance costs, or approximately \$55,000 per year. This is substantially greater than the original predicted savings on \$825,000. These savings will begin with the first debt service payment on May 1, 2016. Staff contact: Chad Rinde and Chris Crist

HR Update –

East Yolo Region

FILLED AFT Library Assistant (19 hour/week) – Please join me in welcoming **June Schmiegel** as our newest Library Assistant with the East Yolo Region at the Arthur F. Turner Community Library!

Ms. Schmiegel is the new Homework Center Assistant for the Turner Community Library. June most recently served as the Library Media Technician at Bannon Creek Elementary School. During her tenure at Bannon Creek, she organized the

school library, assisted staff and students with use of the library, worked with other teachers and District Library Media Specialists to select materials to support curriculum, and held classes for students on topics such as library 101, internet searching, and use of electronic media. June's career included a position as Office Technician in the CA Department of Finance, Health and Human Services, monitoring legislation and the unit's bill library. June also worked a s page for three years for the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library during her college days.

Ms. Schmiegel received her BS from UC Davis in International Relations and German with some coursework from San Jose State University's School of Information. I have found her to be a bright, articulate, and well-spoken addition to our team and I know that she is excited to work with Touger Vang and with the children and families of the Homework Center at the Turner Community Library. June's first day was September 21st.

West Yolo Region

FILLED – Vaile Fujikawa will join the West Yolo Region beginning October 20 as Librarian I. Vaile served as Network Technician for the Computer Lab at Nevada County Library and worked as an intern for Napa County Library. She has an extensive experience working with youth and especially manga and anime and has presented programs with noted teen librarian Jack Baur on comics. Recently, Vaile was responsible for a digital project focusing on Nisenan culture. <http://www.TheUnion.com/news/18340596-113/celebrating-heritage-nevada-county-library-collection-highlights-nisenan>

OPEN - The Youth Services Librarian II recruitment is open until filled. Recruitment took place at the Association for Small and Rural Libraries Conference in Little Rock, AR the first week of October and if still open, recruitment will take place at CLA in Pasadena in early November and again at ALA MW in Boston if needed.

FILLED – Part time library assistant Glen Uno accepted a full time position with the West Yolo Region based in Davis. Glen has worked at Yolo County Library for many years and had balanced his work between Davis and Woodland Public Library. We are fortunate he has decided to work for Yolo County.

FILLED – To support our efforts to create stronger service at Yolo and Knights Landing we have the County's approval to fill an existing Library Associate position, in line with the ongoing work to align the Yolo County Library organizational plan to meet the needs and services throughout our system. The plan calls for Library Associates to serve the Yolo and Knights Landing Branches.

Sue Billing was a finalist in a competitive open recruitment in the most recent Library Associate list that dates within the past year. All current Library Associates were consulted for their desire to change location or transfer to this position.

As many of you know, Sue has been instrumental in creating a sense of community engagement in Yolo, working in particular with a number of youth in the area, establishing a regular Teen program, communicating with current library users and inviting residents from Zamora, Dunnigan, Woodland and Yolo to participate more fully in their local library. She has been in continual contact with the local Cache Creek High School leaders and students and has been supportive to the Yolo Friends of the Library and other volunteers in their development of programs and service to enhance our library's effectiveness and reach. Sue is also assisting the Library's leadership and the Friends in advanced thinking about future needs in line with the current building. Sue's role in promoting the maker boxes in Yolo and elsewhere has received national notice and she will be representing Yolo County Library in the upcoming Public Library Association conference in Denver, CO this coming spring.

Please join me in congratulation Sue Billing in her promotion from Library Assistant II to Library Associate effective August 23, 2015.

OPEN – There is one FT vacant Library Assistant position due to the promotion of Sue Billing to Library Associate. This position will be filled in the same recruitment with the County Archives and Records Center.

211 Yolo

OPEN 211 Office Support –A single vacancy remains in the 211 Yolo service. 211 Coordinator Victoria Lewis is seeking internal candidates for placement.

Central Services

OPEN – With approval to fill the .50 FTE Library Assistant at County Archives and Records Center, recruitment began immediately.

Conferences:

Association of Small and Rural Libraries Conference, Little Rock, AR: Shuqin Jiao (AFT) and Crista Cannariato (Davis) attended and shared information about the now open Librarian II Youth Services position.

California Library Association – November 5-7, 2015, Pasadena, CA
Sylvia Moreno and Touger Vang (AFT) will be attending CLA this year. Patty Wong will be presenting the Member of the Year Award to Elaine Franco. She will be presenting with Helen McAlary (Ontario) and Jessica Hudson (Contra

Costa) on “I am the Director: Challenges for New Supervisors” and will induct Gail Schlachter (posthumously) into the California Librarians Hall of Fame.

Library Projects:

- **CENIC implementation of 1 gigabyte support at Esparto, Knights Landing and Yolo Branch libraries and 10 GB redundancy at Central Services – equipment procured and delivered – install expected FALL 2015. Frontier, WAVE and Praxis interested in coming to KL and Esparto.**
- **Library staff Sue Billing and Patty Wong will attend PLA in Denver, CO in April 2016. Sue will be one of a team with San Jose Public Library and Rancho Cucamonga to coordinate a Design Thinking workshop.**

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

We connect people and ideas.