

YOLO COUNTY LIBRARY
COUNTY LIBRARIAN'S REPORT
January-February
February 10, 2016.

Library Budget Update

The Library and Probation Department received a \$15,000 grant from the King-White Foundation to support the Reading Together program administered through the Arthur F. Turner Community Library staff. With the West Sacramento Friends of the Library acting as fiscal agent for the grant, the library will work with probation leadership to provide training, mentoring, education and encouragement for referred probationers with younger children to reunify and establish their families as reading families. Up to fifteen referred adults will meet in a group setting with their families to engage in the Every Child Ready to Read curriculum over a period of ten weeks. The program reinforces the concept of the parent or grandparent or caring adult as the child's first teacher, fosters a pro-literacy environment at home. Parents read to their children and participate in literacy activities with their families that they can model in any environment. Adults are also assessed for their own literacy needs to ensure the greatest support. The grant will fund 2-3 sessions of adult participants for calendar year 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 a fifth element, Robust Economy, has been tied to Flourishing Agriculture.

The Library is most closely involved in three of the four 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). **Update: The Library has been included in the development of gap analysis and an action plan to provide best practices for services for children and youth in the County.**

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) **Update: the Library continues to be included in system Broadband planning organized through LAFCo**

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) **Update: the Library’s Yolo Reads program has engaged with the Agriculture Commissioner, and leading farm and agriculturally related leaders to initiate conversation about support for and plans for targeting workforce literacy activities.**

These priorities tie directly into the Library’s strategic directions: personal and individual learning and development, workforce development, and collaboration.

Library leadership conducted two budget workshops for staff to develop priorities for service for integration in the budget process in January.

Facility Study and Capital Improvements Update

1. County Courthouse reoccupancy: A December 2015 report from construction consultant Kitchell analyzed use of the old County Courthouse for County Archives and Records Center purposes and cautioned about sustainability of existing flooring for large loads given the types and amounts of materials and retrieval methods. Library staff is working with General Services to determine optimal options and cost containment that will include consideration of the Courthouse facility and alternative storage of the collection distributed on all floors.
2. Yolo Branch Library – new facility – The Friends of the Yolo Branch Library and a dedicated Community Advisory Group are determining priorities in program and service development as well design options for a new branch reminiscent of the older building shape and feel. Architect Doug Davis has developed many scenarios for community and staff review. The community will weigh in during a planned forum in March 2016.

Community Advisory Group members were taken on a tour of three branches in the Yolo County Library system on January 30 to provide ideas and insight for the design and service possibilities during the planning of the new Yolo Branch building. Architect Doug Davis from WMB Architects, as well as library staff, Jenny Tan and Sue Billing, accompanied the tour, providing insight and information. The group visited the Clarksburg Branch Library, which was initially two homes renovated into one, the Winters Community Library that was constructed in 2010 and the Esparto Regional Library, constructed in 1999. Participants were provided an outline of program and service considerations, such as entry, ambience, dedicated and flexible space and access points, public

- art, and use of technology. Information on branch circulation numbers and facility history and funding were also provided.
3. Facilities Master Plan–The Board of Supervisors directed the Library to establish a facilities master plan to review all needs for expanded and new library service provided in the Jacobs Report. A LAB subcommittee has been formed and will be meeting in later February/early March.
 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 met with Superintendent Todd Cutler who will take next steps in working with WJUSD facilities lead Roy Owens.

Grants

- First 5 Yolo – on schedule with additional recruitment for needed bilingual support with Spanish and Russian language skills. (Grant support: \$150,000 over three years)
- Career Online High School is in progress with a slow start. Library Lead Scott Love and Joan Tuss are working to engage YCOE and school district leadership throughout the County to sponsor all of the thirty slots with referrals and financial support. Thanks to a grant from the CA State Library COHS will match fifteen individuals in pursuit of their high school diploma through an easy to use online program focusing on a combination of successful prior credits, one to one counseling to complete required academic needs and support for vocational training. The match means that YCL can serve thirty individuals during the

program. (Grant support: Up to \$16,425 and additional resource funding not to exceed \$5000)

- DIY History – schedule delayed due to staff transitions and vacancies. Interim leader recruitment in process. Library Assistant Jason Bell is working to identify best materials to upload, work with Jenny Tan on volunteer recruitment and training and worked with Elizabeth Gray and Chris Crist to get Omeka software installed. (Grant support: \$10,000 – CA State Library)
- Back Prep Program – on target and as scheduled. Touger Vang has created workshops and the content for the backpack distribution of curriculum and materials to encourage and instruct first generation college goers about the college application process. In partnership with Washington Unified School District leadership and local counselors and faculty at River City High School, the workshops have attracted dozens of interested families (Grant support: \$6000 – CA State Library)
- Yolo Reads – An additional \$8000 has generated additional support for the Day Reporting Center both in West Sacramento and Woodland for screening returning AB 109 probationers for literacy support as needed. A portion of this funding will go towards reducing the waiting time for learners and towards workforce literacy within the agricultural community. (Grant support - \$18,000 – CA State Library)
- The Mobile Online Bike program in conjunction with Woodland Public Library will bring a mobile bike unit to areas throughout Yolo County as part of outreach and service delivery. The grant is a little behind schedule, but moving forward on bike design, acquisition of the mifi for internet access for library card signups, checkout and consumer use, and promotion and marketing plans. The Friends of the Davis Public Library provided funding for Internet access; the CA State Library provided funding for the bike and trailer.

Partnerships and Programs

- On January 31 the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library provided an interactive workshop entitled “Equitable, Inclusive and Just Communities: Exploring historical policies, constructs and practices to create healthier societies” from 2:00 – 5:30 p.m. that was facilitated by Sandy Holman, director of the Culture C.O.-O.P. More than 40 people attended this event that featured group discussions on historical policies and current news practices, as well as engaging and thoughtful lectures.

- Nolan Sullivan from County HHSA and Victoria Lewis from 211 Yolo presented a new text based service two weeks ago to the Food Connect collaborative. The Fresh Text program will provide timely information about food distribution, nutrition, and food related opportunities like Cal Fresh for consumers who opt in. Sullivan and Lewis provided effective and engaging information about this new product and will integrate feedback on suggested heightened service for rural residents and collaborations with existing food community partners.
- On January 20, the Davis Branch Library hosted a kickoff in support of the 2016 Davis 1,000 Mentors for Youth Challenge. The City of Davis and Davis Joint Unified School District (DJUSD) developed the program to provide focus on coaching, mentoring and engagement opportunities for Davis youth and volunteer roles for caring adults. In 2016, the Challenge will be to work with Davis schools, the City and a host of Davis partners, including the Library and the County, non-profits, businesses and community members to integrate mentoring and coaching of youth in their work. Mentoring can be formal or informal but the goal is to make a committed difference to work positively with young people, creating a foundation for their learning and ongoing success towards becoming adults. More than 80 came to the kickoff which was recorded by Davis Community Media. Supervisors Provenza and Saylor were on hand to support the program along with several members of the media and Challenge partners Davis Enterprise, Davis Chamber of Commerce, Writing Buddies, Dialogic Reading and many more. DJUSD teacher Michael Lamb is coordinating the process of engaging volunteers for Davis public school sites. To join the 2016 Davis 1,000 Mentors for Youth Challenge, visit: www.djUSD.net/volunteers or www.cityofdavis.org. To find out more about specific mentoring opportunities in the community, email: 1000mentorschallenge@gmail.com.
- The Yolo County Library recently surveyed local residents in the Knights Landing and Yolo communities to determine additional days and hours of service. The Board created a subcommittee to identify ways to create stronger library support and services for these much needed communities. Currently, the Knights Landing branch is open 12 hours a week on Mondays and Wednesdays and the Yolo branch is open 11 hours a week on Tuesdays and Thursdays. After tallying the results, more than 365 surveys were returned that showed clear favorites on which additional hours these communities wanted and needed. Residents voted for the Knights Landing Branch Library to be open on Tuesdays from 3:00 to 8:00 p.m. and for the Yolo Branch Library to be open on Saturdays from 12:00 to 5:00 p.m. A soft opening of these additional hours will begin the week of February 21. The hard opening will take place in mid-March (tentatively March 16 in Knights Landing and March 19 in Yolo) and will be accompanied by a press release and festivity to highlight and celebrate this event.
- The Yolo Branch Library received great feedback from a mother who brings her baby regularly to the library's free Hug-A-Bye Baby Story Time on Wednesday

mornings at the branch. She told library associate Sue Billing, that she was so impressed with the library's story time and liked it so much that she stopped going to a different baby music class that she had paid for elsewhere. She cancelled that group so she could come to ours instead because of the library's quality programming and interaction. The mother also wanted to let us know that when her family is looking for a program or charity to give to in the future, they will be looking towards the Library.

- First 5 Yolo and the Library are also working on promotion of the film Raising of America to focus dialogue on the need for early literacy support as a community best practice through engagement at all levels: organizations, schools and education, business, families, government including City and County leadership, and community institutions.
- The Library is also working with Yolo County Office of Education on an Equity and Education series of programs with the UC Davis Center for Regional Change. The next program is the Cost of High School Dropouts to be held on February 18 from 11:30-1:00 at the YCOE Conference Center. The event features Dr. Gloria Rodriguez and a respondent panel who are students, business leaders, school board leaders and school administrators.
- Joan Tuss is working on a homebound support program to bring much needed materials to older adults and those who have no resources to come to the library through community engagement and volunteerism. The goal is to start with a pilot in Davis and then to move on to other areas.
- LINK+ services began in January and more than 400 items have been distributed outside the system, and more than 400 items have been requested by Yolo customers with the materials arriving within 2-5 business days. The Technical Services team, Elizabeth Gray, Hualing Wan, and Lana Harman have championed successful implementation.
- Library staff have supported annual meetings for the Friends in Winters, Esparto, Clarksburg, Davis and Yolo County Archives in December and January and have developed requests for support from each respective group. The Friends are key to our ongoing ability to provide quality services and programming. Training is available for new leadership through a one hour Yolo County Library 101 orientation through Central Services administration.

Human Resources

Training and Workforce Development

- On January 25, Sandy Holman conducted a 3 -1/2 hour training for all staff on Equity, Diversity and Inclusion. More than 60 staff attended and reflected on topics on a personal and professional level, based on the results of a survey of staff interest and identification of needs and gaps in the workplace. The survey indicated a stronger tie between the library's service priorities and delivery for all customers as well as improved cultural and diversity awareness amongst the staff. How to deal with homelessness and mental health needs of consumers as well as stronger support for multilingual populations were among the top ideas that required additional system attention. The staff dealt with hard to discuss concepts such as class, privilege, ethnicity and assumptions. More and dedicated work and regular communication and opportunities are needed for this to take shape in a meaningful way. The library will call for volunteers to join a system committee to focus on Equity and Inclusion at the staff and community level.
- Yolo County Library arranged for Doreen Webber, School Psychologist and Gender Specialist from the Stockton Unified School District to share her powerful experience and in depth knowledge on gender diversity and transgender children and teens with library staff and interested education and community members on February 1 at the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library and on February 4 at the Arthur F. Turner Community Library. More than 80 people attended these trainings that shared chilling statistics, poignant stories, and federal and state laws to protect this growing population. Doreen also explained gender vocabulary and provided community resources with the latest in gender research. Doreen was an engaging and thorough presenter that had information that could benefit all members of the community.
- On February 11, 26 library staff from Yolo County and Sacramento Public Libraries and related partners will attend a Mother Goose on the Loose training conducted by creator Betsy Diamant-Cohen. This training is brought to our community through shared support from Sacramento Public Library and dedicated funding through YCL's First 5 Yolo funding.
- The Library supported the applications of Jenny Tan and Lana Harman to attend the CA Library Leadership Institute scheduled as a five-day residency program in early March 2016 in San Jose focusing on personal and professional leadership skills and talent development. This Institute, provided through Infopeople and conducted by noted trainers Maureen Sullivan and Kathryn Deiss, is a new development model and will include a cohort of 32. Participants will learn of the application results in mid February.

- Library staff Scott Love, Vaile Fujikawa, Crista Cannariato, Carly Brotherton, and Patty Wong are the Yolo County Library representatives for a three day residence training on the Brazelton Touchpoints framework as part of the CA State Library's commitment to the creation of a Northern CA cooperative of Touchpoints trained leadership – initially for support and integration of the Touchpoints work but later to establish leads for train the trainer opportunities for deeper systemic change. Davis and YCL was selected as the location for training from March 15-17. The Touchpoints philosophy is based on the work of noted pediatrician T. Berry Brazelton. It is a critical mission and vision and ideal for a relationship with libraries:

The vision of the Brazelton Touchpoints Center is that all children grow up to be adults who can cope with adversity, strengthen their communities, constructively participate in civic life, steward our planet's resources, and nurture the next generation to be prepared to do the same.

We partner with families of young children and the communities and systems of care that surround them so that all children – whatever their life circumstances, challenges, and resources may be – will be healthy, succeed as early learners and have the opportunity to thrive.

The Brazelton Touchpoints Center is committed to creating opportunities for learning and growth through collaborative, strengths-based, culturally-affirming approaches within its own organization and in its partnerships with all others.

- Supervisors Hualing Wan, Rachel Hudson, Shuqin Jiao, Chris Crist and Elizabeth Gray will be attending ICMA Effective Supervisory Training - a series of management workshops for developing exemplary supervisory skills conducted by County HR and Finance lead Jesse Salinas, a trained ICMA facilitator. ICMA is the International City/County Management Association and is a highly trusted and respected professional organization with strong Yolo County investment. ICMA is also a strong ambassador and advocate for the role of libraries in community building.

System Positions

OPEN – A recruitment for bilingual Spanish and Russian part-time library assistants is under way to augment the need for Ready for Kindergarten specialists for the First 5 Yolo grant as well as ongoing bilingual support needed at the branches.

East Yolo Region

Michelle Titsworth has been tapped for work as .50 FTE Library Assistant for Davis. She currently provides support primarily in customer service at the Turner Community Library and works with Yolo Reads to assess the needs of adult learners at the Day Reporting Center in West Sacramento and Woodland. Michelle worked as a library

assistant in North Carolina public libraries before coming to CA. She joined our team originally as a staff member supporting the One Stop Employment Center at the Davis Branch where she was a critical member of the team developing the initial service. The transfer from Turner to Davis will take place sometime this spring.

(Kristina) Kate Bellock has been hired to fill Michelle's time and will begin onboarding training in February starting in Davis. She will begin work during the week of February 20 as .50 FTE Library Assistant assigned to Arthur F. Turner Community Library. Kate joins us most recently from Southern CA where she has considerable book store experience. She has also worked in health and human services as administrative and office support and has worked as a volunteer for the Davis Branch Library.

211 Yolo

OPEN 211 Office Support –HNSA authorized a 1.0 FTE position to support 211 efforts. Initial review of existing applications did not materialize in a hire, so the search for Office Support Specialist will result in a new recruitment, beginning soon.

Central Services

FILLED– Amy Ponce has been selected as the .50 FTE Library Assistant for the County Archives and Records Center. Amy joined the team on January 12 and brings considerable experience as the business manager for a private company providing human resources, workforce improvement and business analytics. She has experience with project management, customer service, business operations, editing, organization and development. Amy has college experience from University of Nevada, Reno and is currently a Davis resident. Amy has already provided key support to the organization and backfill of activities and the DIY Grant.

OPEN – Librarian Maria Arcorace was temporarily reassigned for a limited duration appointment on a part time basis to the County Archives and Records Center. She provided critical support and direction for the unit. She has just accepted a full time position in her original hometown of Seattle and her last day was 2/7. The Library is in search of a limited duration lead to support the County Archives during open hours and is working on recruitment of a key individual to lead the DIY Grant implementation. Recruitment for the Librarian for County Archives and Records Center will follow the Business Services Manager recruitment.

FILLED – Chris Crist has been promoted to Fiscal Administrative Officer. This position will function as the number two in the organization, providing the same types of duties as the Assistant County Librarian in management and leadership of operations as well as fiscal oversight. In the meantime, the Assistant County Librarian will remain filled until further notice. Chris's promotion means that the Business Services Manager position is open. Chris will be able to train and develop the new Business Services Manager incumbent as part of succession planning upon her retirement projected for the future.

OPEN – The Business Services Manager recruitment begins 2/4 through 2/26. The recruitment will be shared widely with a number of library partners as this is a specialized lead position for our community.

West Yolo Region

FILLED – Jenna Wilson has accepted the 1.0 FTE Library Assistant position at the Davis Branch and will begin work during the week of February 20. Jenna most recently comes to us from Western Washington where she served in a number of positions in research, web content design and management and editing and proofreading. She also provided curriculum content and training in tutoring for English Language Learners and worked with a number of diverse regional and international communities.

OPEN – Recruitment for the Librarian II Youth Services position will resume in summer 2016 to coincide with ALA. With the resignation of Maria Arcorace there are two Librarian positions open in the West Yolo Region.

Conferences

Due to personal reasons, the County Librarian did not attend ALA MW nor will she attend PLA in April. She will attend the Texas Library Association conference in April as an already scheduled presenter for a preconference on Organizational Resilience featuring inclusion, equity and diversity. Upcoming conferences also include ALA Annual in Orlando in June 2016 focusing on recruitment for Librarian positions as well as duties related to ALA Council in her role as Chapter Councilor for the California Library Association.

Library Associate Sue Billing 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. The team has been asked to provide a second workshop and potentially a virtual program connected with the conference due to preliminary preferences from registered conference goers.

Library staff Elizabeth Gray, Hualing Wan, David Tavaréz and Vicki Klein will attend the upcoming Innovative Interfaces Users Group Conference scheduled for March 16-18 2016 in San Francisco.

Library Projects

- Library leaders are exploring automated handling system for Arthur F. Turner Community Library and potential replacement/upgrading of the Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch sorter.
- With the CA Gold Chapter of REFORMA, the fourth annual Spanish Language Book Fair will take place at the Davis Branch Library on February 29, from 9 am. – 4 p.m. Seven Spanish-language vendors will be in place and the event is open to all. Light refreshments will be served.

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