

Yolo County Library – County Librarian’s Report

May-June

June 8, 2016

Library Budget Update: The Library’s budget for FY 2016-2017 and update to the Board was conducted with few questions. Priorities for the final budget will remain those items tied to the County and the Library’s strategic plan priorities. The Library will focus on the following items:

- Facilities Master Plan – RFP review in process – finished document to be issued late summer, early fall with a six-month return expected.
- Analysis of additional day of service at Knights Landing and Yolo Branch Libraries in preparation for a fourth day of service.
- Organizational development – building library community through integration of key value models (Harwood Turning Outward and Brazelton Touchpoints).
- Successful transition of 211 Yolo to HHSA operations.
- Design and construction of new Yolo Branch Library with community and stakeholder engagement.
- Plans for improved service and potential new home for County Archives and Records Center and Central Services.

County Archives and Records Center Update: MLIS graduate (SJSU School of Information, Archives), Jason Bell works with the Archives and Records Center team to provide support for the diy History project, focused on selectively digitizing and uploading key archive resources for open source transcription by community volunteers. The project is funded with LSTA support administered by the CA State Library. CSL consultant Linda Stewart conducted a site visit of the project in May and found the work to be very impressive. Interim lead Jennifer Springfield and Library Assistant Amy Ponce provided critical support to diy History and all things related to the many activities of the Archives and Records Center. The recruitment process for a new librarian will begin early June and run through July.

Backpack PREP – Funded with LSTA monies and administered through the California State Library, under the direction of Librarian Touger Vang, close to 30 youth from River City High School participated in a culminating graduation after several weeks of instruction, coaching and mentoring to foster higher education pursuits. All of the youth have limited opportunities and would be the first in their families to pursue an advanced degree. Each family borrowed a backpack full of preparation materials to encourage investment in their child’s educational future. Mr. Vang worked closely with career counselors at the school. California State Library consultant Jon Torkelson visited the program during graduation.

Mobile Outreach Bicycle program – Another LSTA funded project, the MOB has already made visits to the Davis Farmer’s Market, local schools with plans to

frequent Davis Joint Unified Schools during summer school hours. Staff have already registered community for library cards and circulated materials with the wifi hotspot provided by matching funding from the Friends of the Davis Public Library.

Books by Mail – The CA State Library also funded a proposal to provide Books by Mail to homebound, regardless of age, beginning this next fiscal year. Funding will provide initial durable bags, zipties and postage as well as additional part time staff support to supply up to 300 customers during the first year. The program will be maintained through a combination of Library, Friends, and fundraising community support.

Branch Update:

Arthur F. Turner Community Library: The Library is part of the City of West Sacramento LRNG community – participating in this city wide program to craft meaningful ways to engage youth and capture their accomplishments and competencies through digital badges.

Clarksburg Branch Library: Branch Supervisor Margaret Kaplan was part of a team of those trained in the Harwood Turning Outward model focused on community engagement.

Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library: The Library is deep in expanded programming and service delivery with lead staff working on Mobile Outreach Bicycle programs, plans for temporary library service at Harper Middle School in light of MME renovations in the summer, Career Online High School, Touchpoints Training, Harwood Training and an upcoming month long display and program honoring the 150th Anniversary of the Chinese railroad worker in the US.

Esparto Regional Library: Ongoing communication and school visits regarding summer reading and Dia de los Ninos reinforce our system commitment to education and inclusion. Branch Supervisor Malinda Baker works with dedication towards establishing stronger relationships with Esparto Unified.

Knights Landing Branch: The third day of expanded service has brought a number of regular youth attendance and a preview of the summer reading opportunities to come! We hope to rebuild our Friends support here and look for allies and partners from all corners to assist YCL and the Library Associate, Carly Brotherton, in this effort. Carly continues to work with the Sci-Tech Academy, Knights Landing Childcare Center, Empower Yolo and the Robbins School District to reach out to the community.

South Davis Montgomery Library: the entire campus will be closed for renovation and repairs. MME summer school students will be bussed to Birch

Lane Elementary. YCL advocated for relocation to Harper with direction from LAB members. Service will cease at MME on Thursday, June 9 and resume at Harper on June 13 and run through August 14 with the same hours – Tuesday 5-9 p.m. and Saturday 10-2 p.m. Summer reading will take place with special outreach to the middle and high school summer school students.

Winters Community Library: Liz Coman is retiring and so Branch Supervisor Toni Mendieta will have a new partner beginning this fall. New hours have been established at Winters during breaks and summer to include consistent Friday hours. During the school year, the high school campus will not begin bell service until 9:30 a.m. every other Friday but the library will remain open – with some programming opportunities each Friday. The student intern program will continue and special attention will be made towards maintenance of the meeting room and the physical building with support from the City and the School District. The City discussed increasing the support for service beginning winter of 2018.

Yolo Branch Library: The third day of service continues to serve the growing number of children and families and especially energetic and enthusiastic young teen males who frequent the library and continue to work with Library Associate Sue Billing. Sue has brought a strong element of curiosity and discovery in her work with Yolo service area youth and has shared that STEM focus in Design Thinking processes locally and nationally, representing YCL most recently at the PLA National Conference in Denver, CO.

Construction: The Board reviewed the Capital Improvement Projects for priorities. CAO Patrick Blacklock will come back with options for an Adult Day Health Center facility and ideas for a new or refurbished County Archives and Records Center/Central Services, but the Yolo Branch Library has been approved to proceed. A structural engineer has reviewed the building for integrity and long term use with a report pending. The Friends are mobilizing to organize a capital campaign to support the funding needs for a new structure. Staff is working with two options – a portable or a bookmobile for short-term (up to two plus years) temporary housing for library activities during the planning and construction phases. Staff has approached Cache Creek High School for joint use of their facilities for placement of the temporary facility but will keep other options open. The Community Advisory Board associated with the construction project continues to meet as the design and process continues.

South Davis update:

Service in South Davis has been placed in a priority for funding consideration but at a later time when resources can be made available. The estimated costs for a new building would be between \$23-\$25 million in construction for a 30,000 square foot building. Operation funding would need to be secured for this need prior to implementation and the project would be integrated into a Facilities Master Plan.

Human Resources:

Joining us at tonight's Library Advisory Board meeting:

Jenna Wilson is our new 1.0 FTE Library Assistant at the Davis Branch and began 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 key support at the Sacramento Children's Museum. Jenna also provided curriculum content and training in tutoring for English Language Learners and worked with a number of diverse regional and international communities.

And our newest hire:

Meredith Beales, Business Services Manager. Meredith brings exceptional experience most recently as Senior Manager for Gilbert Associates in Sacramento for the past 11 years where she coordinated audits of many public sector agencies and employee benefit plans. Meredith is familiar with finances from top to bottom as a CPA. She has supervisor and recruiting and mentoring expertise and has a great depth in technology as it pertains to business use and accounting. She has a great sense of humor and a can do attitude. As a volunteer, Meredith lends her expertise to the Stanford Settlement Neighborhood Center where she serves as Board Treasurer and member of the Special Events (read fundraiser!) Committee near the community where she lives.

Meredith received her Bachelor's in Accounting from Messiah College in Mechanicsburg, PA.

Meredith began work on May 29 for Yolo County Library and her first day of work was Tuesday, May 31. Her office is at Central Services and Chris Crist is her direct supervisor.

Open: Three recruitments are open or are soon to open. Recruitment will take place through CALIX, local, regional and national listservs, ALA Annual Conference (Orlando), and from direct and targeted marketing and word of mouth.

Librarian I/II –County Archives and Records Center Coordinator –
Librarian I/II – Youth Services, West Yolo Region, Davis Branch Library
Librarian I/II – Adult Services, West Yolo Region, Davis Branch Library

The Library has selected two Extra Help librarians and two additional Library Assistants to provide Ready For Kindergarten support and bilingual story times through the First 5 Yolo grant.

Friends Update

All Friends organizations were sent a copy of the Friends of the Yolo Branch Library's document on conflict of interest disclosure. Yolo County Library 101 orientation is available to all Friends leadership or members

Upcoming events and special news:

- On May 5, the Winters Community Library and Winters High School hosted "Positive Reflections: From Combat to Community", a traveling art exhibition presented by YoloArts, showcasing artwork created veterans from all branches of the United States military service. More than 100 people attended this event, including veterans and their families, where the Yolo Community Band, conducted by music director Bobby Rogers, played live music. The Winters VFW Post 11091 also attended the event and Davis poet laureate Dr. Andy Jones read selections from *In the Almond Orchard*.
- Yolo County's Arthur F. Turner Community Library received a \$500 ScholarShare prize since one of the 40 winners of the 'Read to the Rhythm' promotion last year submitted an entry form at the West Sacramento branch. All 40 winners received a \$500 prize, as did the reciprocating library branches. This is the fourth year ScholarShare has partnered with California public libraries to promote summer reading. To be eligible, students in the 8th grade or below had to read at least one book over the summer and their parents or guardians had to submit an entry form online or at their local public library. ScholarShare received nearly 7,000 entries from students across California, and the 40 winners were selected at random. Congratulations to all the students who participated and won!

Organizational Culture:

TOUCHPOINTS:

The library is undergoing formative opportunities to become a stronger community and family focused organization with outcomes as part of our framework and of course with values of strengthening families and youth development.

The Yolo County Library was one of five library jurisdictions to be selected to participate in a three day institute in the noted Touchpoints framework focusing on mapping the different emotional and behavioral stages of the family and child's development. We worked with Brazelton Institute leaders to craft the library's unique role as a community conduit for information and family resources towards creating strategic and intentional opportunities for families. This process sponsored by the California State Library is another progressive milestone in our efforts to shift the culture of the library turning outward to become more community centered. The Davis branch staff hosted the training with representatives from El Dorado, Contra Costa, Butte, San Francisco from March

15-17. A following Train the Trainer series was held again at the Davis Branch in late May. We hope this will result in creating a community of practice for Northern California.

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

We connect people and ideas.