

**Yolo County Library – Interim Library Administrator’s Report**  
**July-August**  
**August 9, 2017**

Yolo County Library Foundation: Board members are Mark Fink-President, Camille Chan-Vice President, Mary Stephens-Non Voting Member, Lynnel Pollock-Member, Sally Brown-Treasurer, Chris Crist-Secretary. The Board continues to meet monthly as they work on their by-laws, 501(c)3 paperwork, Mission Statement and develop a logo. Outreach to the Friends groups will happen in August/September, both to let the Friends groups know there is a Library Foundation being set up, and to learn more about the role of each Friends group with their local library.

Facilities Master Plan Update: Jennifer Sweeney and Associates have:

- Provided a draft survey report to the Facilities Master Plan Team (FMPT) for review; FMPT members are providing feedback.

**Grants:**

We received a \$7,500 grant from the State Library for children’s bilingual books. All funds must be expended by August 30<sup>th</sup> – so expect to see a significant influx of children’s bilingual materials in the fairly near future

**Facilities News and Updates:**

Archives renovation: project should begin December/January and will include installation of compact shelving, new HVAC (temperature and humidity control), better insulation, and new equipment and shelving in the workroom.

Yolo Library : Friends and Community Advisory Group meet August 1 to vote on preferred project (renovation or new build). Negotiations for purchase of the property next door continue.

Esparto Library Groups Maintenance Agreement with Friends: current lease with FERL expires 8/31/17. Staff will take updated agreement to FERL for approval in August.

**Human Resources:**

Joining us tonight:

- Dana Christy, East Yolo Regional Manager
- Patty Valdovinos and Maria Sandoval – Migrant Center outreach

#### Vacancies:

- Administrative Services Analyst – Yong Xiong – will be invited to October LAB meeting
- Clarksburg Library - Branch Supervisor non-MLS
  - Final interview August 3
- Knights Landing Library – Library Associate
  - Final interview August 2
- County Librarian
  - Next step in the process in late August – more information from HR expected soon

#### Conference Attendance/Staff Training:

- Expanding # of staff with CPR training so we can install AED machines at additional sites

#### Events and special news:

- A staff member at the Yolo County Crisis Nursery came to the Davis branch looking for picture books on dogs. The children were going to be introduced to a therapy dog the following day. Many of these children had never met a dog before and she was hoping to find something that would teach them how to approach a new dog. I checked the catalog and wasn't able to find anything specifically on meeting new dogs that was available right away. I did, however, find a storytime kit on Dogs and brought that out. We looked through it and found it contained a book specifically on therapy dogs that would work. The patron was very excited about the dog puppet, which she could use with the children to practice how to approach and touch the dog. She was also happy about the felt board story, which she planned on doing with the children before the dog's visit. Rather than getting a few books, she ended up with a whole curriculum of interactive learning that would help prepare the children to meet their new canine friend!
- The Arthur F. Turner Community Library and the City of West Sacramento are partnering in what they call an "Age-Friendly" project. City of West Sacramento Community's Christine Prater and her interns have put this video together to share with us. Check out their YouTube video: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=-oKKK0VN77A>
- Last week a staff person was working reference and a woman came in and wanted to borrow a copy of the Davis Book Club book for the month. Unfortunately, all the RAY bag copies were gone, and we didn't have any other copies on the shelf. It was available, however, through OverDrive! So I showed the woman how to access the digital collection and we were able to check it out and send it to her Kindle right from the Ref desk! She said she was very thankful because she was going to be recovering from a procedure and being able to read the book and participate in the

book club would give her something to look forward to. The library offers many ways for patrons to access materials in different formats!

- Today our Esparto patron who runs a day care center came in and brought the chrome book and hot spot back. She was very pleased with it and filled out the chrome book survey. She checked out many more items and a story time kit. As she was leaving she said she loved this library and everything about it and also that the library was our community! So happy to hear.
- A patron in Esparto came into the library to use the Wi-Fi. He mentioned his Wi-Fi at home was down and that he works from home. He was told about the hot spots now available and was thrilled with the level of service and items the library offers. Not only was he able to still work from the comfort of his home but we gained an impressed patron.
- The Yolo County Archives is excited to announce that a photograph from our collection will be featured prominently in the Sacramento Archives Crawl's promotional materials this year. Our 1967 photograph of Dr. Paul Moller, a then Professor of Aerodynamics at UC Davis, in his "discojet" aircraft, will be used on Crawl posters, bookmarks, and drink coasters. The Crawl will be held on Saturday, October 7th. You can view the poster at the Archives Crawl's webpage: <http://sacarchivescrawl.blogspot.com/2017/07/share-2017-poster.html> Or through Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/sacarchivescrawl/photos/a.1581123775246930.1073741827.1581116501914324/1939294142763223/?type=1&theater>
- Starting on August 1, 2017, Yolo County Library card holders will be able to browse free emagazines of popular magazines such as Food Network, The Atlantic, Oprah, Rolling Stone, Newsweek, Sports Illustrated, Car & Driver, Wired and more. Simply install the Flipster® app to download magazines to smart phones and tablets & Kindle Fire tablets for offline reading anytime, anywhere. Or open Flipster® on any computer using the link on the Yolo County Library website.
- Interested in volunteering to help staff the Friends of the Archives booth during the Yolo County Fair? This year they have moved into an air conditioned building – yay! They are looking for two people to work 2 hour time slots, so you and a friend can share a shift, then enjoy the fair! If interested, you can sign up for a shift at this weblink: <http://bit.ly/fyca-signup> , or you can call Lon Springer at (530) 666-5126, or email the Friends at [FriendsofYoloCountyArchives@gmail.com](mailto:FriendsofYoloCountyArchives@gmail.com)
- One of our patrons came in today to return her items. She was working on her husband's immigration status and because of the citizenship corner training staff felt comfortable about speaking with her about the DHS website. Staff showed her the kit that she could check out for studying.
- In celebration of the Americans with Disabilities Act's 27<sup>th</sup> Anniversary, the Yolo County ACE – Assessor/Clerk-Recorder/Elections office and Yolo County Library are participating in a national effort to educate and inform people with disabilities about voting. This effort, known as the REV UP Campaign, has designated **July 17-**

**21, 2017** as **National Disability Voter Registration Week** in advance of the June 2018 election. REV UP stands for Register! Educate! Vote! Use your Power! Information on how to register to vote will be available at all Yolo County Library locations. Each community library has a computer with special text to speech and magnification software for people with visual disabilities. The libraries are accessible for people with mobility disabilities and staff will be able to assist people with questions about the voter registration process.

- AFT branch had a teen volunteer who started as a shelver and then moved to their Homework Center. In January 2015 she joined a pilot group tasked with creating S.T.E.A.M. Maker Boxes for teen programs. She informed me she'd participate in all aspects of the pilot but would not speak in front of a group. I accepted her restrictions. However, throughout the 6 month pilot, I offered her opportunities that allowed her to move toward public speaking. First, she agreed to write the text for other people to deliver. Next, she agreed to stand next to presenters and add a comment if the presenter forgot something. She then would sit beside a facilitator at an in-house Mini Maker Faire and help explain procedures for the event. At the end of 6 months, she was able to comfortably co-facilitate programs. While the pilot ended, she continued to join our Maker Events, and was soon able to facilitate a table without aid. But we will let her July 2015 words speak for her regarding the importance of the program,
  - "This program has inspired me in various different ways:
    - For once in my life, I saw a hint, a mere spark of interest, that perhaps public speaking could actually be fun! I am a little more comfortable speaking in front of people than I was when I first started out. That is not to say that I don't still have a long ways to go, but at least it feels a little more doable than before.
    - The program has reignited a curious spark in me....I want to know "why" and "how" for everything ....Unlike school has conditioned me to think, believe it or not, learning can be a bucket of fun.
    - Lastly, this program has taught me a more broad lesson: take chances, go out and say "yes" more ....This thought ....will have a tremendous influence in my personal growth and development..."
  - It is now the summer of 2017, and our volunteer is in Taiwan and now "placed to teach junior high kids (7 and 8th grade) This program is a government funded program that trains volunteers for one week, then we go out and teach at our various assigned schools for 2 weeks with lesson plans we design ourselves..." She is paying it forward.
- Regarding Hotspots: A young KL patron has had some music files on his phone that the family purchased a while back but would never download. So, he could not listen to them unless he was online which is a challenge in KL. We even tried taking it to a public place with wifi but the songs would never download. After using the hotspot last night, he was able to download all songs. Needless to say he is thrilled!
- A big shout out to City of West Sacramento, who let us know they had IMPACT funds remaining at the end of the year and wanted to know if we could use them for enhancements and replacement pieces for the storytime and early learning kits. The timing couldn't have been better – these funds will enable us to add additional sensory storytime kits and sensory backpacks. Check out the backpacks

at this link: <http://www.alsc.ala.org/blog/2017/07/super-sensory-backpacks/>, and look for these to be added this fall.

- Davis staff used the adapted books during Family Fun Time on Saturday, and it was a HUGE HIT!!! Each child was able to add a piece to the story to help us finish the books! We ended with sensory stations (bubble wrap, foam egg carton packing pieces, kinetic sand, exploration tubes, and shredded paper). The shredded paper was everyone's favorite, and we all ended up with paper in our hair and the floor was 100% covered, but it was worth the clean up! What a great way to make storytimes more inclusive to all kinds of families!
- Thanks to the forward thinking of the Vaile Fujikawa, Youth Service Librarian for Yolo County, the Yolo Branch Library has a *code and go robot mouse*. The object is to let people experience coding a robot in an easy way. Today there were 3 children under the age of 6 all working together to figure out how to make the mouse go under the bookshelves. As each new child wanted to join their group I would ask who wanted to explain how to make the mouse go right, left, backward or forwards. This gave them great experience and pride that the older kids were looking to them for how to do it. When the older kids got working with the mouse they seemed to get a great deal of satisfaction in figuring out how many time the mouse would need to go forward to reach a certain spot, when did it need to turn etc. Many thanks to Vaile and all of the YCL staff that go out of their way to help us in the smaller branches.
- A Davis customer stopped by to say 'thank-you' for the Link+ service. She belongs to a book club, and Link+ has made it possible for her to be able to get a copy of the title when all of our local copies are checked out.
- In June 2017 a number of children and teens ages 0-17 at the Davis branch participated in Yolo County Library's Read Off Your Fines Program. Children and teens read in the library a total of 9, 242 minutes, resulting in \$621.65 being waived on their library accounts. The Read Off Your Fines program will continue during the Summer Reading Program.
- A staff person was working at the children's desk when a girl came in and asked how the Grand Prize Drawings work for Summer Reading. She wanted to know how we pick who gets a prize. The staff person emptied out a container, and split up our storytime rattles by color. They explained that if she finished the program, she would get one entry. We visualized this by putting one blue rattle into the container. Then they told her if they finished, they would get an entry, too, and put a green rattle into the container. Then, we put more blue rattles in the container, to show that if she kept earning entries, the chances that someone would randomly pick a blue one would be higher! Summer Reading not only encourages patrons to practice reading, but also math skills!
- Become an advocate for literacy!
  - **Yolo Reads** provides free tutoring to adults who want to improve their reading, writing, spelling, and grammar skills. Learners receive one-on-one

support from volunteer tutors, free materials, free computer use, and access to the Yolo County Library collections.

- For those interested in tutoring, no experience is necessary, the hours are flexible and Yolo Reads provides all necessary training and materials. Contact us at 530-666-8019 or at [libraryvolunteer@yolocounty.org](mailto:libraryvolunteer@yolocounty.org)

- A West Sacramento customer thanked staff for helping him clear every nook and niche on his personal computer and phone so that he could download as many ebooks as possible. He is planning a trip to Europe and because of Library staff help will now have plenty of reading material for the flight and while traveling.
- A middle-aged woman approached the desk saying a bit embarrassedly that she wanted to learn how to use email and texting on the phone. She wanted to know whether the library can help her. Staff told her we have basic computer class and one-on-one computer help that she can sign up for, plus daily computer help hours run by volunteers. She signed up for both the class and the one-on-one computer help, and decided to wait for the current onsite computer help volunteer to start her off with the basics. She said if she had known we offer these services she would have come much earlier. We often forget that there are still people who had never used the computer. I'm glad we have these community resources to help her.
- The Esparto Branch had their first mini maker camp where they did the "Newspaper Engineering" maker box. Fun was had by all!
- Yolo County Library's Mary L. Stephens Davis Branch Library is gearing up for the 2017 Barrio Writers Program. From September 18<sup>th</sup> through the 22<sup>nd</sup>, the library will be working with renowned author Sarah Rafael Garcia and the Davis Migrant Center to support young people on a transformative creative writing experience. [Barrio Writers](#) is a wonderful creative writing program founded by the author Sarah Rafael Garcia. The program provides free college level writing workshops to teenagers in underserved communities. Students will build skills in reading, grammar, creative writing, critical-thinking and freedom of expression through cultural arts. The workshops and one-on-one writing mentorship will take place over a 4 hour per day, 5 day period, culminating with a reading and reception for friends and family.
- A Davis customer commented to staff: My daughter has brought home more books from the library than ever! I love the new summer reading program!! I think it is a much better format than before...I love all the extra bonus things too, like try a new food. I have used that one way more than once already this summer...Good work!
- On June 28th, children and their caregivers attended a Storytime at AFT featuring the "Colors" School Readiness Kit. After about thirty minutes of songs, fingerplay, and stories, families had the opportunity to explore the contents of the kit together as free play. The smallest children enjoyed the soft toys from the Shape Discovery Boxes, while the Tweezer Tongs Color Sorting Kit and Magnetic Color Maze were particular favorites with preschoolers. One parent discovered the works of Herve Tullet for the first time, calling Press Here "incredibly cool."

- Starting in July, all Yolo County Library branches, with the exclusion of the South Davis Montgomery Branch due to space limitations, will offer a Self-Published Local Author Shelf. The purpose of the shelf is to support local self-published authors by giving their work a place in the physical collection and by making their work available to all members of the community.
- With the help of the Yolo County Archives, RISE, Inc.'s publication the "Valley Voice" has been digitized and is now available on their website. Yolo County Archives staff digitized all of the "Valley Voice" publications from 1998-2006 and also made sure that they were keyword searchable. You can look through the digital files by going to RISE, Inc.'s online archive of the "Valley Voice." <http://riseinc.org/valley-voice-archive>
- Through a loaner program with the City of Davis, the Stephens-Davis Branch Library has a piano stationed just outside their front doors. Today a jazz quartet was gracious enough to entertain staff and guests to the Library



- A Davis patron wrote this on one of our comment forms: "Lovely display of Asian books! I found several I never would have read." During the month of May we displayed fiction books by Asian American authors as well as nonfiction books about Asian culture for Asian Pacific American Heritage month.
- An Eleanor Roosevelt Circle resident made the day for staff when they took the Book Bike to visit their facility and received this comment: "Thank you so much for coming here. It means so much to me, and I am so grateful because if you didn't I wouldn't have any books to read." She usually checks out 6-7 titles each visit, and though she knows about the Books by Mail service it does not provide that personal contact with library staff which is what makes the experience so satisfying for her.
- On Friday June 9<sup>th</sup> archives staff hosted a group of 4-H parents and students for a tour and discussion about the Yolo County Archives and Records Center and the importance of archival material. At the end of the tour the students had an opportunity to look through some archival collections that related to 4-H and agriculture. Attendees seemed most interested in the Farm Bureau scrapbook and the leather marks and brands that were displayed.
- A boy and his mom came in and asked if we had audiobooks for kids. The boy was a voracious reader, but recently suffered a concussion, and his doctor restricted him to only 5 minutes of reading at a time, 3x per day. I helped them find a few of his favorites, plus some new titles, and introduced them to OverDrive for downloading books on the go. The library provides materials in a variety of formats to make the collection more accessible to everyone!

- A young girl came to the desk to see if we had any good books. She said she really liked the book *Wonder*, and wanted other books about kids who are different. I recommended *Rules* by Cynthia Lord and told her that it was about a girl who has a brother who is autistic and a new friend who has cerebral palsy. She said "That sounds really interesting! I've never heard of cerebral palsy, but we thought my brother was autistic, but then we found out he has ADHD. And I have a little bit of dyslexia." So I also offered up *Joey Pigza Swallowed the Key* by Jack Gantos (about a kid with ADHD) and *Fish in a Tree* by Lynda Mullaly Hunt (about a girl with Dyslexia). She read the descriptions and said "I can't wait to read these books! They are just like my family! We know that we don't have a disability, our brains just work a little differently." Books can act as a mirror to reflect our own experiences, and a window to show us the experiences of others!

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

**We connect people and ideas.**