

**Sara Jones, Director of County Library Services
Marin County Free Library
Report
May, 2015**

Personnel

- Community Library Specialist (CLS) - Webstars Coordinator hired.
- Library Technical Assistant interviews conducted.
- Youth Services Librarian (Librarian I) closes on Monday, June 8. Interviews scheduled for week of ALA, June 24 and 25.
- Community Library Specialist - Marin City reclassified to Librarian I. Board of Supervisors action, Tuesday, June 9, 2015.

Board of Supervisors Actions

On 6/9/15 the Board of Supervisors will consider the action for the Library Commission to appoint the 5 members to serve as measure A oversight.

Remodels and Facility updates

Thanks to funding from a tax measure, the Marin County Free Library (MCFL) has expanded hours at three West Marin branches, marking the first time in the 87-year MCFL history that the branches will stay open for a full day of service. (Press Release Attached)

The “pop up” library for South Novato is planned to open later in June. Our hope is by the final week. We also were informed the modular library is planned for completion in mid-September so we are not too far off schedule.

Library Activities:

Below are reports submitted to keep you abreast of library activities are directly related to our three primary goals from the MCFL strategic plan and the mission to create connections to explore, imagine and innovate:

- Goal 1- Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together
- Goal 2 – Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression
- Goal 3-Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.

Outreach/ Bookmobile (Damon Hill)

On Saturday May 2nd the Bookmobile staff along with Carla Avitabile, Etienne Douglas and Damon Hill took fossils, rocks, shark teeth dig, robotics, copper circuit night light and the 3D printer to the Marin County Schools Marinovators Day. The Marinovators was second annual event at the Marin Office of Education to feature originations and student projects focused on STEM related activities. The event had an estimated attendance of over 2,000 families. Very positive feedback from attendees that included parents trying to get children to move on from our exhibit. We plan on making this a regular event in the future.

The fossil program went on the road again on Saturday May 30th for the Novato Multicultural Day event. The concept of having a program in a box that we can share among branches has been successful and at this point the fossils have been to more events than the Bookmobile.

As part of a generous donation of the Friends of the Marin County Library the Bookmobile dropped off fresh new book donations to local food pantries. *(Goal 1- Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together)*

The Cubelets were loaned to Laguna School for the parent's open house. Students were able to demonstrate to parents what they had learned the month prior to siblings and parents.

On May 21st Kelly Jones accompanied the bookmobile to talk with the kids about the process to write and publish a book. The students were enthralled and fired up to write their own stories. Kelly ran them through tools they might use to think up their own superpet and what superpowers it might have. One student envisioned an ostrich that could drive NASCAR.

The Summer Reading Program for 2015 launched on May 26 and will run through September 6th. Numerous pieces of collateral were created for the program including flyers, posters, bookmarks, bookmobile posters, website and "book bucks". Kids earn a Book Buck for every 1000 minutes they read or are read to. Book Bucks can be exchanged for a variety of prizes including donating to the altruistic element of donating up to \$500 to the Marin Foster Parent Association.

The S.T.E.A.M. Activity Book and Community Report for 2015 were printed and distribution began to the community and libraries at the end of the month. The Spanish / English Activity Book provide numerous Science, Technology, Engineering, Art & Math activities as part of the 24 page booklet. Also included is the 2015 accountability report, information of libraries and regular programs for youth. *(Goal 2 – Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression)*

On May 19th I attended and spoke at the One Book One Marin culminating event at Dominican University. *(Creating connections to explore, imagine, and innovate)*

Civic Center (Eva Patterson)

Our project to make more room for our impacted Teen collection was completed. We discarded thousands of nonfiction, Large Type and audio titles in our effort to free up one side of a whole range for the expansion of the Teen collection. Our end results allow the following:

- Move Teen Nonfiction into the space formerly occupied by the 000s.
- Move New Teen Fiction into the space formerly occupied by Teen Nonfiction.
- Teen Periodicals and Teen Lucky Day will stay in the range they currently occupy.

- Room for the Teen collection to grow without impaction.
- Clear impacted areas in the nonfiction collections.
- Eliminate the use of the top and bottom shelves of the tall ranges as much as possible.

Permanent shelf signage is going up under the Dome. Elmer produced additional signage to complete both ends of the short ranges: Teen, Mystery, and Fiction. Signage for the tall ranges is still a work in progress as we needed to order additional sign holders which have just come in.

Our new customer service station was set up for use during high traffic times and when staff are helping patrons while working under the dome. We are still adjusting to the setup and tweaking as we go along. We moved our music collection to the front of the library to make space for this “3rd” station and may tweak its location when our additional marketplace shelving unit arrives. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together & Goal 2 –Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression)*

Kathleen took the leadership position in designing and executing the Marin County Fair game for the 5th year. Normally held in April to celebrate National Library Week, the game has been moved to mid-May. In keeping with the “Read to the Rhythm” Summer Reading Program theme, the game is matching pictures of music instruments with their words. Gail Grant in Administration brought her publishing prowess and designed a placemat style game with charming graphics.

Both Kathleen and Jenny began school visits to promote the Summer Reading Programs. Branch staff had a mini maker camp to explore and practice some of the projects the kids and teens will work on this summer. *(Goal 1 – Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together)*

Tom continues his eBook download help sessions and produced a handout of an overview of the various MCFL eBook and download services. Elmer provided one-on-one instruction on Microsoft Word Avery Label templates, including formatting, images, backgrounds, grouping and copying. Linda and Tom used social media outlets to promote branch programs and services. *(Goal 3 – Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy)*

Kathleen was a member of the MCFL contingent in Washington, DC for National Library Legislative Day, a day to communicate ALA and MCFL issues to California Senators and Representatives.

A patron from Forest Knolls lost his insurance cards and other cards on the street near the SF Opera where he was working. Someone from San Leandro found the packet of cards, which included a MCFL library card, and called here to see if she could return them to the patron. Linda took the call and gave her our address. Cynthia not only sent all the cards back, with a typed note of explanation, but also included a stamped envelope so we could easily send everything to the patrons. I called Gael and Doug to verify their mailing address and that’s that. The Library card to the rescue...again! And let us give thanks to the good Samaritans of the world. *(Creating connections to explore imagine and innovate)*

Anne t. Kent California Room (Laurie Thompson)

Printing Museum on Wheels stops at the Civic Center: A good time was had by all when Mark Barbour of the International Printing Museum presented his interactive printing and book-making exhibit to the Civic Center Library. Mark brought Johann Gutenberg and Ben Franklin to life

during his talk and demonstration on how the art of printing revolutionized access to knowledge and literally changed the world. During the second hour, California Room volunteers Sydney Morse and Adeline Ellison helped participants print their own letterpress ephemera including postcards and bookmarks. Philanthropist and former newspaperman Jeff Craemer (who underwrote the program) demonstrated printing on a newspaper press and distributed facsimiles of the front page of the 1909 “New Era” edition of the “Marin Journal” (created from the original in the California Room Collection) to participants ranging from grandparents to grammar school children. (*Goal 1- Preferred place for children/families to connect, learn and grow together*).

California Room Photograph “Time Travels”: A popular image from our Golden Gate Bridge collection made the cut for the first episode of the Travel Channel’s “Time Traveling with Brian Unger: SF’s Golden Gateway & NY’s Tallest Five and Dime.” The Anne T. Kent California Room, Marin County Free Library, is prominently featured in the credits at the end of the show. The episode is currently viewable on YouTube: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=A-pCyb-TTZk&feature=youtu.be> (*Goal 3- Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy & Goal 3 – Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy*)

Civic Center World Heritage Nomination: California Room Librarian Laurie Thompson is working with David Speer (County Administrator’s office) and members of the Frank Lloyd Wright Civic Center Conservancy to plan a special tour for the UNESCO delegation who will be arriving on September 15th to evaluate the Civic Center as a possible World Heritage site. Last week we toured the Civic Center campus with DPW staff to recommend minor capital improvements in advance of the UNESCO visit. Materials from the California Room’s special collection on Frank Lloyd Wright and the Marin County Civic Center will be used in interpretive displays and presentations. (*Creating connections to explore, imagine and innovate*)

Nuclear Free Marin Archive Donated: Attorney Lois Wise –a founding member of “Nuclear Free Marin”- donated her personal archive on that organization’s activities, 1986-87.

Sonoma County Library Interview Panel: California Room Librarian Laurie Thompson spent two days at the Sonoma County Library on the panel interviewing candidates for the History & Genealogy Librarian position recently vacated by long-time librarian Anthony Hoskins. (*Creating connections to explore, imagine, and innovate*)

Movies of Old Marin: We are thrilled to report that after two years of negotiation and a generous donation of \$9000. from local philanthropist Jeff Craemer, the Marin County Free Library is now the owner and copyright holder of 630 minutes of film documenting historic Marin County, including rare original footage of such events as the burning of the Hotel Rafael in 1928; school children engaged in play across Marin, created for Marin’s exhibit at the 1915 World’s Fair; the construction of the Golden Gate Bridge; railroads and ferry boats; civil defense activities in Marin during World War II. This footage, together with five documentaries made by former San Rafael High teacher David Swingle & his students to celebrate the 1976 bicentennial in Marin, have been re-mastered and digitized by David and Karl Swingle of Montana for the Anne T. Kent California Room, Marin County Free Library, to be archived in perpetuity and made available for educational purposes. (*Goal 1- Preferred place for children/families to connect, learn and grow together Goal 3 – Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy*)

North Bay Nerd Nite Outreach: California Room Digital Archivist Carol Acquaviva gave an engaging audio-visual presentation on the 1906 Earthquake at North Bay Nerd Nite. Using images, oral histories and other source materials from the California Room’s collection, Carol eloquently portrayed an event that forever changed the S.F. Bay Area, including the impact of

the earthquake on West Marin, which was particularly hard hit due to its proximity to the San Andreas Fault. *(Goal 3 – Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy & Creating connections to explore, imagine and innovate)*

Schroeder Map Collection: California Room Librarian Laurie Thompson has been working with Scott Bauer and Craig Tackabery (DPW) to assess the feasibility of acquiring Mr. William Schroeder's valuable collection of 30,000 maps, surveys, plats, subdivisions and field notes documenting Marin as far back as 1849. The collection includes the private unrecorded maps and files of prominent Marin County Surveyors including George Dodge, George Richardson and J. C. Oglesby. On April 17 Laurie took a second field trip to Mr. Schroeder's archive accompanied by Doug Allen (County Assessor Records Office) and Dewey Livingston (Local Historian). Both Doug and Dewey highly recommend that the collection be acquired by the County as it includes maps and surveys found nowhere else. *(Creating connections to explore, imagine and innovate)*

Cultural Services Collaboration: California Room Librarian Laurie Thompson and her volunteer Jerry Johannessen have been collaborating with staff and volunteers from Cultural Services who are creating a revised and corrected version of the guide used by Cultural Service's docents to lead tours of the Marin County Civic Center. Jerry and Laurie have spent hours fact-checking various iterations of the script and Laurie is on the sub-committee which is fine-tuning the guide. *(Creating connections to explore, imagine and innovate and Goal 1- Preferred place for children/families to connect, learn and grow together).*

Corte Madera & Marin City Branch Report (Julie Magnus)

Corte Madera

The May exhibit in the Friends of the Corte Madera Library Community Room featured amazing art work from the students at Sir Francis Drake High School. A variety of mediums were represented, from photography to oils to pastels and mixed media. The student artists had a reception in the library on Saturday, May 16, and many patrons have enjoyed the art. In fact, when we recently removed the display to prepare for the next exhibit, patrons were quick to ask "What happened to the art? I really liked it!" *(Goal 2: Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*

After reaching out to the new Senior Services Liaison at the Corte Madera Parks and Recreation Department, Julie Magnus arranged for the library to participate in the Corte Madera Senior Fair. Shereen Ash and Jackie Foster staffed the library table at the Fair, sponsored by the Corte Madera Parks and Rec Dept. They brought iPads to demonstrate eBooks, as well as information about happenings in the library. New staff member Ana Stanescu created a handout to highlight library services of interest to seniors. *(Creating connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate & Goal 3: Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy)*

Marin Theatre's Youth Company performed "Miss Nelson is Missing!" on Saturday, May 9, to an engaged young audience. The interpretation of the story appealed to the kids, who could relate to the characters and setting. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

The Early Bird College Essay Writing Workshop was held in the library on the evening of Wednesday, May 20. Interested teens (and their parents) were able to take advantage of helpful

tips to prepare for the challenging process of applying to colleges. (*Goal 2: Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.*)

One of the many tasks our library staff members manage is to review the email messages from patrons who respond to reminders about renewing their library card. We've received some very positive responses that brightened our day, which made me want to share them:

- "Hi Please renew my library card. my phone number is new: xxxxx. all other info is the same. Love CM library!!! Best library EVER!! Thanks."
- "Thank you very much for this reminder. I very much wish to renew my membership. All of my information is the same. Please let me know if there is anything else I need to renew my membership. I sincerely appreciate your making this so easy."
- "Hi, Our info hasn't changed. Please renew our library card- we love the Marin libraries!"
- "Good Morning, Please renew my library card. The information you have on file remains accurate. Thanks for this great service. I love the libraries of Marin!"
- "Thank you for the great service and the awesome staff!"
- "Hello, My info remains the same. Happy New Year! Our family loves our libraries of Marin."
- "Hi - XXX's information is correct, she is my 10 year old daughter and loves going to the library."

(Creating connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate.)

National Pet Week was the theme for one of the displays on our "discovery wall", which was created by librarian Tami Fehrenbacher. Featured in the display were photos of staff members' pets reading—cleverly arranged in a large dog house. The books on the display have really flown out the door — everything from pet-themed fiction to how to care for your pet chickens! Since our remodel, we have found that our new entry and discovery area has been a great way to interact with patrons. It makes it easier for them to browse popular, new, and seasonal material, and really helps make their visit to the library more interesting, pleasant and informative. We had a great response with our "Poet-Tree" display in April, as well. Many patrons stopped to create a poem on our magnetic board, or to read the poems on the "leaves."
(Creating connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate.)

Corte Madera Library staff has had the opportunity to explore some new learning tools for kids— Launchpads, a tablet with curated apps for kids. The apps are vetted, age appropriate through various levels, and different collections of about 10 apps are loaded onto different tablets. Some are by subject, like math, and some are by theme, like dinosaurs. We are very excited about collaborating with our Technical Services Dept. to work on a pilot for making these available in the library. Stay tuned. (*Goal 3 – Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy*)

Marin City

On Friday, May 15, Marin City Library hosted an open house to celebrate our new Friday hours. After our "soft launch" about a month and a half ago, it was time to share some cake and great music to mark the success of this extension of our services. Now, the community can come to the library any day of the week! Whether they're looking for great books, crafts for kids, Internet access, or to get a chance to use our new 3D printer, more hours = more opportunities to connect! (*Creating connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate.*)

This month, MCI launched a new bilingual story time on Wednesday afternoons with Jose Avalos. We are very excited about the opportunity to reach more children and their families and to make them feel at home in the library. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

The Printing Museum on Wheels made a stop at the Marin City Library on Saturday, May 16, for a fun family-centered event. Museum curator Mark Barbour told engaging stories about how Gutenberg's printing press changed the world in 1450 and how books and printing shaped young Ben Franklin's life. Then, everyone got a chance to print their own keepsakes on antique presses, set their name in type, make a small book or print the front page of an historic Marin County newspaper. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

Marin Theatre's Youth Company performed "Miss Nelson is Missing!" —also on Saturday, May 16. It was a busy day at the library! *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

Craft/ Story time at the Library this month included many opportunities to create cool projects, including: May Day poles, Pocket Solar System and Star Finders, Paper Light Sabers, Wildflower paper, Comic Strip Crafts, and Ninja crafts. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together & Goal 2: Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*

The Library hosted a Free Family Nutrition Workshop on Tuesday, May 19, in partnership with the County Health and Human Services Department. The focus was on learning how to prepare healthy meals for your family. There were free taste tests and food demonstrations, and a prize raffle including a \$20 Safeway gift card! *(Creating connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate.)*

Fairfax (Margaret Miles)

After recently completing eBook Academy, Anthony Puga, Circulation Supervisor reports "I have found myself faced with multiple E Book questions that I can actually answer. I received a very strong handshake with a broad smile from a gentleman who was completely new to eBooks but had multiple devices. I appreciated the fact that I was given the tools to actually show him how to download using my iPad Mini. We both would have been lost without it. On a more personal level, I have truly enjoyed Zinio. I always have a great selection of magazines on my device and once downloaded, I can read them anywhere! I find myself promoting this when I can." *(Goal 3: Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy).*

On Mondays and Wednesdays from February through mid-April, the AARP assisted 241 people at the Fairfax Library with tax returns, and assisted an additional 45 people with questions. The AARP volunteers worked about 6.5 hours each day for a total of 512 volunteer hours. Library TEC staff have established a separate port for AARP staff to access the library's wireless, and all returns are filed online while patrons are present. Staff and patrons very much appreciate this partnership to assist with online filing. *(Goal 3: Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy).*

On May 7, with the Children's Librarian ill, Martha Stieger (LA2) and Theresa McGovern (L2) presented a spontaneous substitute program for attendees of Mother Goose on the Loose. Theresa read several stories, led the children in a "duck walk" around the room, handed out

jingle bells, played background music, and put out board books and shaker eggs for kids to play with. (*Goal 1- Preferred place for children/families to connect, learn and grow together*).

Supervisor Katie Rice used the Fairfax Library to hold “office hours” on May 9, and a total of 15 residents stopped by to talk with her. Katie left staff a thank-you note for the community garden flowers staff placed in the meeting room. She has agreed to march in the Fairfax Parade again with Library staff in June! (*Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate*).

Back by popular demand, Martha Kassin, Teen/Adult Services Librarian held SCRATCH programming for teens on May 16. Thanks to Corte Madera branch for loaning us their 10 Chromebooks. The program was “sold-out” and several parents commented what an excellent free opportunity this is. (*Goal 2- Support youth with opportunities for self-discovery and expression*).

Anthony Puga continues to hold Lego Club programs twice a month, and tables continue to be full. We are seeing many repeat players, some who boast they’ve been every time. Anthony does a terrific job of asking the children what they are building and listening to their imaginative stories. Anthony has also recruited several teen/tween volunteers to assist with the program. The Fairfax Library has received so many donations of Legos that we have been able to provide a starter collection to Point Reyes library. (*Goal 2- Support youth with opportunities for self-discovery and expression*).

The Fairfax Library Card Campaign pilot with White Hill Middle School is well underway! Martha, Margaret and Anthony met with WHMS staff to discuss the project, and Sara Jones and Margaret met with San Anselmo staff to clarify jurisdictional issues. Anthony met with Bonny White and Daniel Avalos, Novato Circulation Supervisor, to develop procedures for issuing cards, and circulation staff at Fairfax have been working at creating an efficient and streamlined method for issuing San Anselmo cards to SA residents, MCFL cards to Fairfax residents, and duplicate cards for students who have an existing card. Martha, Anthony and April Hayley, San Anselmo Children’s Librarian will be conducting outreach visits in June to deliver the cards and provide information about library services. (*Goal 2- Support youth with opportunities for self-discovery and expression*).

Margaret is joining the Reporter Team for **Frankly Speaking**, the County’s tri-annual newsletter by and for County employees. Her participation will bring library issues and achievements to the attention of other departments and will serve to promote the library’s mission county-wide. (*Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate*).

Recently a patron drove from San Anselmo to Fairfax library to grab a Lucky Day copy of *Girl on a Train*, only to find that our copy was missing. When Marcia Stieger realized our copy was not here, she retrieved a blog from the Library’s website by Linda Aldrich, Civic Center Librarian, called “What to Read While You’re Waiting For…” and found recommendations for the patron. The patron left happily with one of the titles from Linda’s blog. (*Creating connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate*).

A recent patron comment: “in the last hour I’ve spent reading the current issue of Sun magazine here, I found two articles that moved and inspired me. I’ve been blocked writing, and coming here and having this time has opened up my brain and given me ideas.” (*Creating connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate*).

Novato and South Novato (Janet Doerge)

A patron wrote a letter to the Novato Children’s Room staff to let them know what a great resource the Novato Library is for parents. She claimed to know parents from all over Marin and Sonoma Counties that come to Novato, despite having libraries much closer to their homes. She praised Willow Taraja for her new Discovery Lab Program and Sara Hathaway for Music and Movement, suggesting that both have greatly enriched her family’s lives, allowing her children to develop a love of books, learning and reading. *(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

Each month Novato staff creates a slat wall display around certain themes and places book and movies titles on it for easy access by patrons. The theme for May was “I Can’t Believe They Wrote a Book About That!” Staff found titles of some really fun books that were either not owned by MCFL but by City Libraries, or books that were very popular and had many holds on them—both reasons they could not be physically placed on the wall, but could be reserved by patrons. To highlight those titles staff created cards with the title and QR codes linking to the item record in the catalog. *(Goal 3: Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.)*

Daniel Avalos also came up with a great idea to increase awareness of our Boopsie app and the BookLook feature of the app. At Novato we have a couple of Top Titles lists that we print out each month and display on our slat wall. By adding the ISBN barcodes of the titles, patrons can scan the barcodes on their devices to be taken directly to the items in our catalog. Patrons have been observed scanning the barcodes and other patrons have also asked staff about it. The barcodes are easily created using an online ISBN barcode generator such as <http://www.free-barcode-generator.net/isbn/>. Anna Jonsson shared this with all staff in an email with an offer that if anyone was interested in more information, we would be happy to share tips. *(Goal 3: Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.)*

Best morning ever! 70+ children and caregivers showed up at the Novato Library on Friday,



May 15th to explore a working fire engine and meet real-life firefighters! Thank you so much to the Novato Fire Department for sharing the morning with us and for all that you do for our community. This event was part of the Novato Library's National Safety Week programs for children and families. *(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

Friends of the Novato Library started a campaign offering a free tote bag with their new or renewed membership at the \$15 level. We are advertising this with a notice and a bag on the Friends area of the

library lobby slat wall, and new memberships are filtering in, including one from a patron who thought it was worth it to join at the \$25 level, calling the library a “treasure.”

Speaking of treasures! The Friends of the Novato Library threw their yearly Appreciation Tea for Novato Library Staff and Volunteers on May 21 and presented staff with a set of solar lights for the Novato atrium and a plant for South Novato’s new location. Library staff “turned the tea around” and presented Friends members with chocolate Oscars for “Novato Libraries’ Best Friends.” Cake was enjoyed by all and a Library Trivia game was played and lucky winners received gift certificates to the County Friends-run Book Place bookstore.

On May 23, the last day the South Novato Library was open for service at the hangar location, The Day family who have been wonderful and supportive patrons for years, brought the staff brownies to thank them for their service. All day people were wishing staff well on our move and cannot wait for South Novato to reopen. *(Creating connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate).*

West Marin (Bonny White)

On May 1, Ana Maria Ramirez and Bonny White helped celebrate Cinco de Mayo at West Marin School and Latino Heritage Day at Tomales School. In the afternoon, we joined a school-wide dance celebration at the West Marin School Gym. Then we traveled to Tomales School, bringing the musicians of Cascada de Flores to provide music and dance to a crowd of over 50 children and their families. We also hosted a table at the event, explaining our Reading on the Ranches program and passing out surveys to the ranch families who attended.

During May, Point Reyes Library collaborated with Kerry Bacho of *Raising a Reader* by inviting her to a regularly scheduled preschool story time where she passed out blue *Raising a Reader* bags. We are also displaying a RAR summer reading bag in the library.

On May 8, Jennifer and Bonny hosted a library table at the Kids Musical Theater production of *Alice in Wonderland*. This is the third year in a row that we've been invited to opening night of this festive children's event. We always come prepared to issue library cards and check out books related to the theme of the play, and this year was no exception.

On May 19, West Marin Storyteller and Director, Judy Buchanan and a very talented group of first graders from Inverness School performed *The Story Book Prince*, a play based on Joanne Oppenheim's book of the same title, to an enthusiastic audience of 57 at the Inverness Library. The performance was repeated at the Inverness School Open House on May 20 to an audience of 82. Judy's plays, also known as the Summer Reading Kickoff plays, provide an excellent opportunity for library staff to explain the summer reading game to dozens of children and families, so Inverness Library's Ann Bertucci stepped up as master of ceremonies at both Inverness events.

The Story Book Prince was performed at the Point Reyes Library on May 21. In Point Reyes, students walked down from West Marin School to cheer their classmates on. All told, we welcomed a crowd of more than 70 students, teachers, and parents who not only enjoyed the play but also got to hear all about our summer reading program from Jennifer Livingston.

Bonny was part of a panel of speakers who presented information about Children's Services to the Library Commission in May. On May 28, Bonny gave a presentation on library digital resources to the Marin Communications Forum at the Marin Health and Wellness Campus in San Rafael. Topics included Brainfuse Live Homework Help, Learning Express Library, JobNow: Live Job Assistance, Lynda.com and Hoopla. Since the Forum is hosted by First 5 of Marin, there was also lots of interest in our summer reading program, *Read to the Rhythm*. (Goal 1: *Be the preferred place for families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.*)

On May 2, many members of our Bolinas Stinson Beach youth group performed in the play, *Singing in the Rain* at the Bolinas Community Center. They invited Kerry Livingston and Jane Silva of the Stinson Beach and Bolinas Libraries and everyone was very impressed with our students and with the production.

Members of the Stinson Beach Youth Group learned how to make Survivor Paracord Bracelets with Kerry's guidance when they made their weekly visit to the library on May 11. On May 18, the group returned, bringing more teens who also wanted to make bracelets, so Kerry did it all over again. She has a unique skill for choosing crafts and maker activities that really appeal to this group of teens.

The group, Howtoons visited Point Reyes on May 11 to bring science and steam-based fun to a group of 18 local teens. They built battery operated game-bots and origami and also made stomp-rockets. This “maker” experience was enjoyed by all.

For many months, Jennifer Livingston and other members of the West Marin Coalition for Healthy Kids have been meeting and planning a community forum to discuss teen use of alcohol and drugs in our communities. This event came together at the Dance Palace in Point Reyes on Tuesday, May 19. Jennifer and Bonny hosted a library table and helped welcome New York Times best-selling author (*Beautiful Boy*) David Sheff and other featured speakers like David Escobar of Supervisor Steve Kinsey’s office and Kristen Law of County of Marin Health and Human Services. Input from a panel of local teens rounded out this highly informative evening which was repeated on Wednesday, May 20 in the San Geronimo Valley. (*Goal 2: Support Youth in our Community with Opportunities for self-discovery and expression*)

Other events and services: Creating connections for our Community, Staff News

On Monday, May 4, Counselors, ESL instructors, and GED instructors from Santa Rosa Junior College visited Point Reyes in an event arranged by West Marin Literacy Services. As our ESL instructors in Tomales and Point Reyes worked with their students throughout the year, they realized that several students were actually ready to move on to more advanced classes. We all wanted to help provide a college connection, so Bonny, with the assistance of MCFL ESL Instructor, Luis Burgos and his assistant, Jenefer Merrill, began working with the college in January to plan this event. We were all pleasantly surprised when we met the Santa Rosa J.C. team. They were warm and approachable, creating an environment of trust for our Spanish speaking students. We had library laptops set up at the West Marin School Gym and by the end of the evening, many students decided to register online for classes.

Starting on May 10, the Stinson Beach, Bolinas, and Inverness Libraries were able to extend their hours. For the first time ever, they discontinued the practice of closing at lunch and dinnertime, adding four additional hours of service weekly at the Bolinas and Stinson Beach Libraries and three additional hours at the Inverness Library. This was a complicated process, requiring the hiring of two new West Marin staff members, part-time library assistants Lys Plotkin and Vanessa Waring. We will celebrate the new hours in June.

On Friday, May 22, Fine Arts Museums Docent, Edith Freeman presented a preview of the exhibit, *Embodiments: Masterworks of African Figurative Sculpture*, currently on display at the de Young Museum, at the Bolinas Firehouse. Jane Silvia reported that the audience of 18 really enjoyed Edith’s presentation.

Library Director Activities

- Prepared for performance Evaluation with BOS on 6/5/15
- Participated in Marin County Career Day 5/21/15
- Met with Supervisor Sears on Talk, Read, Sing early literacy campaign for Marin City 5/22/15
- Co-hosted, with Mike Daly, culture of learning networking opportunity with probation and library staff 5/28/15
- Will graduate from San Rafael Chamber Leadership program 6/11/15
- Continued collaborations with Marin County Cultural and Visitor Services including participating in this year’s fair by supporting STEAM activities and showcasing the Bookmobile at the fair. A role for the Marin County Poet Laureate. Prartho Sereno, is also planned.