

Library Director's Report
April 2015
Sara Jones, Director of County Library Services
Marin County Free Library

Personnel

We just completed two successful recruitments for the following positions:

- Librarian- Digital Service/E-Branch Manager- Jen Robinson, Librarian II, children's Services, Novato has accepted the position and starts April 13, 2015
- Senior Systems Librarian- MARINet Jessica Trenary has accepted the position and starts April 27, 2015

We are reevaluating the Spanish Services Community Library Specialist in West Marin after several failed recruitment attempts. We have just a few other recruitments and are very close to full staffing levels- as in 100% with a staff our size isn't practical- we are now below 5% vacancy rate.

Board of Supervisors Actions

On 3/3/15 the Board approved policies to discontinue charging overdue fines on all children's material; no longer charging a \$1.00 replacement fee for juvenile library cards and revising the policy in regards to delinquencies of youth cards to allow for a "clean slate policy" for students establishing a library card by forgiving fines and overdue materials.

On 4/7/15 the BOS will approve a resolution for national Library Week and designating the Poet Laureate.

Remodels and Facility updates

Los Gatos/Marin Commons- The move of our TEC (materials and technology services) occurred as planned on March 24th. The work groups housed there technical services and MARINet still have elements not yet complete but they are up and working for all the core functions. The space turned out very well, it is spacious and bright and has both a training room and a meeting (board) room.

The NUSD (Novato Unified School District) agreement for moving the South Novato location to "C" Street in Hamilton is moving forward. We are planning the "Bookapalooza" community event for April 4, 2015 to show the community our new location. We have extended the lease at current location until 5/31/15.

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:

- 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)

- Completed carpeting for Children’s Room at Novato Library.
- As part of Measure A sweep projects ordered well received storytime cushions and installed new self check counter in the Children’s Room at Novato.
- As part of Measure A sweep ordered additional signage to help patron’s located collections and services at the Fairfax Library.
- Received initial concepts for new bike area at the Corte Madera Library with expanded bike and stroller parking. Staff commented and working on revision to the concept.
- Began development of Activity Book and Community Report.
- Developed Bookmark for Marin Poet Laurent.
- Met with Marin Bicycle Coalition, San Anselmo Library and Fairfax Library to plan Family Bike Ride for October 2015.
- Sent out Press Release related to Clean Slate and Elimination of youth fees proposed for BOS on 3/31. *(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

After a successful trial of Cubelet Robotics at the Schultz museum at the end of February the Robotics program to the Lincoln and Union School Districts. Terry, Nicole and Damon facilitated lessons to students and left the robots for one week for students to explore on own. Both schools thoroughly enjoyed and hope to bring back in the future. Student Izzy Brenner at Lincoln Schools said “The robots are definitely the coolest things I’ve ever seen come from a Library!” *(Goal 2: Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*

- As part of Measure A Sweep projects identified technology to be purchased including Chromebooks.
- Met with Marin City Staff to discuss ideas for 3D printing at events and outside the branch.
- Sent out Press Releases related to New Marin City Hours (resulted in local TV feature on Library including the 3D printer).
- Worked with BKM staff on utilizing new iPad to take videos and photos to post on social media.

(Goal 3-Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy)

Civic Center (Eva Patterson)

Teen Territory, 100s, 200s and 600s were greatly impacted. We decided to weed and shift the entire non-fiction collection to create more breathing room for those impacted areas and also to clear the top and bottom shelves as much as possible. The ultimate goal, though, was to shift enough so that there is enough shelf space for the 000s to begin on the opposite side of the range where they are now. Jenny proposes to use the then-empty shelving on the side of that range facing Teen Territory to 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.

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 Maintenance installs the sign holders. Elmer will produce additional signage for both ends of the tall ranges plus subject-guide signage, new to our branch, after our big weed is finished.

We re-purposed our magazine spinner into a library information spinner and moved it next to our self check stations for optimum visibility. The spinner now holds program flyers, eBook downloading tips, OBOM information and library services information. Thanks to Denise for the suggestion and to Elmer for implementation.

(Goal 1, 2 & 3 – Recognize unique patron needs to develop a proactive, comprehensive engagement plan; Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression; Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy)

Teen volunteer Abby is labeling the very easiest of Easy Readers books with “Level 1”. This will help families to readily identify these books.

Our very successful Stuntology program was specifically targeted to kids in the “gap” tween children and teens. This was the first of many programs Kathleen promised to address this age group when afternoon story time was dropped.

Kathleen was a guest reader for ALL grades, that’s K-6, at Vallecito School. It was very fun and quite a task. She was also a guest reader at Mary Silveira for multiple grades. Kathleen attended the Pulsing Word Awaken to Movement workshop at San Rafael Public Library. She definitely wants to do movement and dance family programs here. Miss Kitty Presents Blog is going like gangbusters and Miss Kitty’s Pinterest has 111 plus followers.

Kathleen called me into the Children’s Room one afternoon for an unusual sight. There were perhaps 10 people, children and adults, in the room. The room was totally quiet and everyone was sitting at tables and the AWE station working on their digital devices. These ties into our outcome of making the library an electronic friendly environment, suitable for all types of learning. *(Goal 1 & 2 – Create location-specific, immersive experiences by utilizing patron and market insights; Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression)*

Other News:

From Teresa: I just wanted to mention to you an incident that happened that highlights the importance of having a library card in a way one wouldn't expect. My neighbor Sherry knocked on my door last week, keys in hand. "Teresa," she asked. "Could you find out who these keys belong to? I was thinking you might be able to help because there's a library card on the keychain. I found the keys a few days ago, but no one has claimed them and I'm concerned because there's a house key and probably other important keys that the person would want." The next day, I took the keys to work with me and scanned the patron's barcode. I found out who they belonged to and called her. It was someone I'd seen around the neighborhood, but I did not know her. I explained who I was and told her that I had her keys. "Oh," she said, "thank you so much. How did you find out they were mine?" Because of your library card! I told her. We made arrangements for me to give them to her later that day. When I gave the keys to her she was so grateful. She explained that she had been on her way to sister's funeral and was just not functioning well. She couldn't imagine where the keys were and had not a clue as to how to start looking for them. I felt grateful, too, that because of the library we were able to help her, especially at this time. And, I got to better know my neighbor.

Also from Teresa: On Friday, a school from Sacramento was touring the building and one of the students left his backpack behind. The family got in touch with Cultural Services and the backpack was located in the Cafeteria, then brought to the library, home of Lost and Found. Cultural Services called to see if we could mail the backpack to the student, as it would be several weeks before they could get to Marin and the student's homework, phone charger and other needed items were in the backpack. I thought perhaps Link+ could transport it to a library in Sacramento, but unfortunately the contract would not allow for it. Scott suggested the County may be able to ship the bag and the mom offered her credit card if we could ship it by UPS. As luck would have it, this morning I ran into someone from shipping and receiving delivering a package to Library Admin as I was filling up my water bottle. I asked about our package being shipped to Sacramento and he said yes, of course, they could do that. Linda brought in the perfect sized box for the backpack and it's ready to go. Great teamwork!

Denise, Kathleen, Victor and Teresa attended Leading from Any Position. This InfoPeople workshop enables staff to take initiative, regardless of the position they hold in their library. Staff was able to practice methods of facilitation, creative problem solving, and setting priorities.

The new shelving unit for J materials arrived and has helped us to continue to refine and organize our check in room. We no longer have to "mind the gap" between our Holds shelves and the wall thanks to Harry from Maintenance who made and installed gap blocker that matches our wooden shelves.

Big news: Denise and her husband Marc bought a home in Petaluma! Denise is joining her fellow Petalumans in making the drive south to MCFL locations. Congratulations! (*Mission: Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate*)

Anne t. Kent California Room (Laurie Thompson)

The Peace Center of Marin, an entity whose roots dates back to the early 1970s, is donating their archive to the California Room. Librarian Laurie Thompson is working with Peace Center volunteers to organize and preserve their collection which includes photographs, ephemera, newsletters and original artwork. One of the Peace Center's most visible projects is a community mural titled "Seeds of Peace" located in Fairfax.

As part of California Room Librarian Laurie Thompson's ongoing local history lecture series, on March 4th, San Rafael author [Laura Ackley](#) presented a very engaging audio-visual presentation on the 1915 Panama Pacific International Exposition, highlighting notable and memorable people involved with that World's Fair including entertainers, athletes, inventors, daredevils, movie stars and aviators. A record crowd of 75 people attended the event which concluded with a book-signing of Ackley's recently released [San Francisco's Jewel City...](#) Published by the Heyday Press.

California Room Librarian Laurie Thompson met with her North San Rafael neighborhood group and Shirley Fischer has volunteered to write narrative summaries of the nine North San Rafael oral history interviews conducted in the past two years. These will be added to our digital archive together with the other components of the oral histories, later this year. (*Goal 1- Preferred place for children/families to connect, learn and grow together*).

California Room Digital Archivist Carol Acquaviva collaborated with [Historypin](#) (historypin.org) on [Mapping the PPIE](#), to celebrate the centennial of San Francisco's Panama Pacific International Exposition. A special section of *Mapping the PPIE* called [Attractions in "The Zone"](#) was created to feature 44 of the California Room's rare photographs of the 1915 fair's amusement "zone." Historypin has also designated the California Room as "Top Pinner." For a live demo, check out the [video posted to YouTube](#) (forward to 4:53 to see the California Room's collection prominently featured). (*Goal 3- Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy*).

On Saturday, March 28, California Room Librarian Laurie Thompson attended the dedication of a plaque marking the site of the Rancho Corte Madera del Presidio adobe of John Reed (1805-1843), who received Marin's first land grant from the Mexican governor in 1834. The full story is posted on her [blog](https://annetkent.kontribune.com/articles/5891) (<https://annetkent.kontribune.com/articles/5891>)

Corte Madera & Marin City Branch Report (Julie Magnus)

Corte Madera

The Corte Madera Library staff members have been working hard to make the entry display area inviting and to offer opportunities for our patrons to discover great reads in an easy to browse arrangement. The focus on providing appealing reading material is working! On our "Discovery Wall", our "As heard on NPR" and "Staff Picks" display has to be replenished frequently, and is a popular place to browse. This is a challenge we are happy to meet. Our Playaway display has raised awareness of the format, and we've been showing patrons how to use them. Finally, a recent compliment was shared about our Staff Picks section: "I've read two recently and enjoyed them both."

A woman who attended our One Book One Marin Andean Music event was surprised and delighted to learn we offered such a range of programs. She considers herself a “power user” but somehow had missed the programmatic aspect of our community wide read program and was eager to attend more of these programs. *(Mission: Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate.)*

A mother was looking for a suitable read aloud book to share with her son’s 1st grade class on the occasion of his birthday. She wanted something engaging, age appropriate and a work that conveyed a message about friendship, or demonstrated positive values. She grateful walked out the door with a stack of books and more titles on hold.

The attendance at our MGOL (mother Goose on the Loose) Tuesday morning storytimes has been amazing- we have seen 90 and even 100 people show up this month! Our hands-on storytime, which involves a themed story and craft/maker activity has also been very well attended, with an average of 45 kids taking part. *(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

Patrons are pleased to learn that they can access our collection using our mobile app. Ending a reference transaction by either helping a patron download Boopsie or handing them the bookmark so that they can do it later extends our service and accessibility. *(Goal 3: Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.)*

A young adult volunteer created beautiful, complex origami to decorate and enliven our teen area. *(Goal 2: Support youth in our community with opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*

Marin City

The big news for MCI is that the branch started Friday hours (noon – 5pm) on March 6, 2015, making us the only County branch that is open all seven days of the week in the 87-year history of the MCFL system. Being open every day means that we can serve our community better, and provide more opportunities for all to enjoy library resources and services, including programs featuring STEAM. MCI received great coverage in the press this month, including radio, TV ([ABC7](#) did a great story on us, including our new hours and the 3D-printer) the *Marin IJ* (Etienne Douglas and the [WebStars snapshot](#)) and the *Pacific Sun*, in their “heroes” section. *(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.)*

One of our Marin City patrons shared a marvelous photo of his doggie clients sitting outside the large window in the library that Diana Lopez, our CLS, has decorated with information about our Read to a Dog program. Diana posted it to the library Facebook page for all to see. The patron shared with Diana that he wished he had access to such a program as a child. He suffered from a stutter, and found it very challenging at school, and this type of program would have been a huge help. *(Goal 1 - Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together.)*

MCI staff have been working hard to partner with the community, attending meetings with the Marin Housing Authority and Health and Human Services, at the Martin Luther King, Jr. Bayside Academy Community Stakeholder meeting, at the MLK/Bayside staff meeting, the Golden Gate Village Resident Council, the Marin City Community Development Corporation, and the Interfaith Council. The goal is to

spread the word about library services and how the library can support the community. (*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.*)

A local firefighter was interested in finding out about our new 3D-printer. He brought in a sample object, and Etienne was able to create a working facsimile of his pool filter! (*Goal 3 - Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy.*)

Fairfax (Margaret Miles)

Fairfax Library presented the first meeting of its Afterschool LEGO club on March 4. It was wildly successful! Huge kudos go to Anthony Puga, Circulation Supervisor, for initiating this program after attending the California Library Association conference last fall and getting inspired. The program certainly was an inspiration for the children who attended, as they chose their LEGOs from the 5 tubs of (mostly) donated pieces, designed and built their structures, and told stories to parents and each other about their creations. One parent commented how she loved seeing her daughter (who is an only child) help another girl who arrived late. Another parent told me, "My kids are so happy their hearts are just beating right out of their bodies." We had 22 children and 11 adults attend the first meeting, many of whom arrived ½ hour before the program started. 25 children (maximum attendance for our room) attended the March 18th program. (Goal 1: Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together).

Our new Community Seed Exchange, in partnership with Sustainable Fairfax, opened for business this month and already we have over 30 people signed up. Children as well as adults are attracted to the charming display of glass jars and vials, and one patron commented, "This is so amazing, it's like Hogwarts!" Patrons have been seen exchanging gardening and seed knowledge while standing in the aisle. We offered a Seed Saving program March 10 with presenters Astrid and Matthew Hoffman of Marin-based The Living Seed Company. It drew 29 attendees, all of whom were introduced to the Community Seed Exchange. (Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate).

Martha Kassin, Teen Services Librarian, is now a regular attendee at Ross Valley Healthy Community Collaborative meetings. As a result of this partnership, Martha ordered a series of parenting books that was discussed at a meeting. At the most recent meeting, Martha observed several RVHCC members had copies of the books with them that they'd checked out from MCFL. Martha sat next to the White Hill academic counselor at the last meeting and mentioned our upcoming library card drive. The counselor was surprised and excited to learn about our access to "Help Now!" since she is always searching for tutors. (Goal 2- Support youth with opportunities for self-discovery and expression, & Goal 3- Be a positive environment for mobile and digital literacy)

Our library is a place where networking happens and leads to positive results. A woman has been in regularly for the past few weeks using our public computers and printer to look for work and a place to live. Last week she happened to be near the Information desk when another woman came in who hadn't been in for over 6 months. The returnee admired our renovation, and mentioned she'd been so busy because she was starting a new business and couldn't find help. The two women struck up a

conversation at the desk, and the businesswoman offered our regular a job! (Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate).

The artwork in our meeting room and library this month has been provided by students from White Hill Middle School through the YES! Foundation. A reception held on March 14 drew over 50 children and adults, and participants enjoyed refreshments and flute music provided by students. The display has attracted attention throughout the month, and numerous parents and grandparents have visited the Fairfax Library to see their children's art. (Goal 2- Support youth with opportunities for self-discovery and expression).

Novato and South Novato (Janet Doerge)

March had a lot of awesome stuff for teens. Carla Avitabile was able to introduce over 300 San Marin students to the libraries remote services and give them a research tutorial. The library also hosted three well attended teen events: a party, a movie night and a dry ice experiments program. All had over 15 participants.

Carla received a giant card from her middle school book club thanking her for all the wonderful books she brings them.

Carla did a presentation for home school students and their parents on how to use the library databases and other remote services. After the presentation one of the older teens said "People ask how the library can remain relevant or useful now that so much can be done using Google. Everything that you showed us today is a really good example of why the library continues to be an important resource for the community."

In March, Book Club discussed "Gregor the Overlander" and drank rootbeer (used as a weapon in the book) and made their own compasses using needles, a magnet, and a cup of water – another feature from the story.

We got brand new carpet in the Children's Room! Everyone loves it and a lot of people have walked into the room and said "Something is different. What's different?" Parents have thanked us for providing a cleaner surface for their children, and the addition of some colorful storytime cushions has made for a very colorful and dynamic space.

Last week, a patron accidentally returned a Red Box DVD to our bookdrop and Miguel Sanchez walked it over to the return box across the bridge. Today that patron came in to ask about it. When he heard what Miguel had done, he shook Miguel's hand and thanked him profusely. He was so relieved and very appreciative.

(Goal 1: Be the preferred place for children, families and caregivers to connect, learn and grow together and Goal 2- Support youth with opportunities for self -discovery and expression

Carla and Sara Hathaway participated in the Eureka Leadership Program, offered by the State Library in conjunction with InfoPeople. The Program looks for California public library staff who exhibit leadership potential and are willing to share with others their enthusiasm, optimism, and vision for future library

services. Carla and Sara participated in the first part of the institute, an intensive six-day residential leadership training program. Each year, only 32 people from public libraries throughout California are selected, through a competitive application process, to take part in Eureka so we are very proud of them both!

Jennifer Robinson, Children's Librarian II at Novato since December 2011, was chosen as MCFL's new Electronic Services Manager! Her adventures in libraries started around 10 years ago at the Rancho Mirage Public Library working in Adult Reference, before heading north to the Seattle Public Library, working first as a Teen Services Librarian then combined library services with her previous background in internet start-ups and information architecture, and worked as a Librarian in Seattle's Virtual & Instructional Services unit. Her last day at Novato Library will be April 4.

Jennifer attended a visioning workshop hosted by San Rafael Public Library. The workshop was led by ZingTrain, an arm of Zingerman's Deli out of Michigan. It may sound strange, but they are known for their amazing customer service and simple but effective methods for engaging staff and the public in creating a shared vision. The resulting vision for a new San Rafael Public Library building was really inspiring and it was a great opportunity to work with our shared partners and communities.

Today a patron stopped by with 2 big boxes of Panera pastries to thank Novato Staff for all that we do!
(Mission: Create connections for our community to explore, imagine and innovate)

West Marin (Bonny White)

On March 3rd, Bonny White led a contingent of youth services personnel including Marilyn Wronsky, Diana Lopez, and Willow Taraja on a field trip to the Bay Area Discovery Museum in Sausalito. BADM has proposed some very interesting STEAM programming possibilities for the summer and we wanted to see *Fairy Tale Engineering* and *Nature Studio* in action. Bonny is hoping to incorporate programs from the Bay Area Discovery Museum in this year's Children's Summer Reading Program in West Marin.

Stinson Beach Library is now exhibiting our favorite art show of the year, a group show featuring the work of students from the Bolinas and Stinson Beach Schools. This year's show includes amazing sculptures of birds and fish, all created from foil and wire. There are also animal collages, watercolors, and wooden boats. We wait for the Bolinas-Stinson Beach School exhibit all year long, and it never disappoints library staff or the public.

On March 4th, sixth graders from West Marin School walked down to the Point Reyes Library to install an exhibit of their projects about Ancient Egypt in our children's room. Their work includes pyramids, dioramas about Egyptian life, and even a four-foot tall mobile, featuring likeness of the Egyptian gods. Families of students visited the library throughout March to admire the work of their children and Jennifer reports that books about ancient Egypt have been "checking out like crazy" all month.

Preschool children from Papermill Creek Children's Corner visited the Point Reyes Library on March 12 to do research and check out books about bugs and insects, an ongoing subject study with the preschool set.

Our March 21 One Book One Marin Peruvian dance program, Antakella, although presented as a family program, became a life-changing event for one little Bolinas 6-year-old named Yma. There's a lot about her life that Yma's parents don't know because she was adopted from a Peruvian orphanage when she was not quite three years old. The music and drumming from Peru clearly moved her because once she started dancing she never stopped, much to the delight and surprise of library staff, community members, and her family. Her initial shyness vanished as she danced and she enjoyed warm visits with all the musicians and dancers. *(Goal 1, Be the preferred place for caregivers and families to connect, learn, and grow together.)*

There was a run on surfing movies at the Stinson Beach Library on March 7 as members of our local teen group participated in a big Stinson Beach surfing contest. The Teen Group continues to meet at the Library every Monday afternoon to visit, do their homework, and check out books and movies.

Jennifer Livingston's work with the Marin County Teen Coalition working to reduce the use of drugs and alcohol continues. She attended a March planning meeting focused on an upcoming community event with Point Reyes writer David Sheff, author of *Beautiful Boy* and *Clean* - books focused on drug addiction and recovery. *(Goal 2, Support Youth in our Community with Opportunities for self-discovery and expression.)*

On Saturday, March 7, Dan Carr presented another class in his series, *Everything but the Popcorn* at the Point Reyes Library. Dan's current classes focus on how to use Library streaming media.

On March 28, the Point Reyes Library presented the first in a series of three programs called *My Internet is Broken! What do I do?* These basic PC classes for seniors, taught by volunteer Dimitri Wilkinson, are offered in collaboration with West Marin Senior Services. Attendees can follow along as Dimitri projects his lessons in our West Marin classroom or gain hands-on experience using our training laptops. *(Goal 3, Be a Positive Environment for Mobile and Digital Literacy)*

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

On March 7, local musician and instrument maker Bark Hopkin presented a family program demonstrating handmade and unique musical instruments at the Bolinas Library. Mr. Hopkin has written several books on this topic. Based on the success of the Bolinas program, we're hoping that Bart will want to consult with Jane about a children's program on handmade instruments for this summer's children's reading program, *Read to the Rhythm*.

The Point Reyes Meeting Room nearly burst at the seams on March 9 when we hosted the second West Marin Mental Health First Aide training for nearly 40 people. West Marin staff all participated in this training last year and found it very informative and helpful, so we were happy to see our County colleagues taking advantage of this great opportunity. Presenters and attendees all commented on how pleasant our meeting space is with its high ceilings, skylights, and buttercup-yellow paint.

On March 10 and 11, Bonny White and Ana Maria Ramirez helped to facilitate the second series of Latino empowerment classes offered in Point Reyes this year, a leadership training called *Abriendo Caminos*. This program, delivered entirely in Spanish, was designed, planned, and executed by members

of the West Marin Collaborative who meet monthly at the Point Reyes Library meeting room. It is hoped that graduates of *Abriendo* will eventually be serving on the boards of local non-profits, helping to make important decisions about matters that are important to them.

Twenty one people gathered at the Point Reyes Library on Tuesday, March 24 to sample the foods of Peru and the Andes, one of our One Book One Marin offerings. They enjoyed quinoa with fresh lima beans, tomatoes and other veggies, mashed potatoes cooked in beet juice, and a quinoa desert with purple corn and fresh cheese. According to Jennifer Livingston, everyone left smiling, having greatly enjoyed the food and the presentation.

Bonny spoke about some of the recent work the library has done with Latino families at the West Marin Fund "Confab" at the Dance Palace in March. This meeting gives executive directors of nonprofits from throughout West Marin an opportunity to hear from guest speakers and work together to solve some of the problems we all share.

Library Director Activities

- Attended San Rafael Chamber Leadership program 3/12/15
- Became part of the California Library legislative committee. See information below about letters needed to support public libraries at the state level.
- Met with Marin County Friends on 3/14/15
- Meeting regularly to expand our collaboration and support for the Marin County Poet Laureate program.
- Guest reader at Vallecito Elementary school on 3/26/15
- The Read to Lead, Leadership Book Club, held its third meeting 3/27/15 and was well attended. This is offered to Marin County employees and encourages use of the Civic Center Library. The book club will meet monthly through 2015.

March 31, 2015

TO: CLA MEMBERS/ SYSTEMS/ NETWORK CONTACTS

FROM: Mike Dillon, CLA Lobbyist

Christina DiCaro, CLA Lobbyist

RE: **News From the Capitol**

I. CALL TO ACTION – LETTERS NEEDED BY APRIL 15th IN SUPPORT OF INCREASED STATE LIBRARY FUNDING

The Assembly and Senate Budget Subcommittees on Education Finance – the subcommittees that have jurisdiction over the California State Library and public library funding - have been meeting weekly at the Capitol to discuss Governor Brown’s 2015-16 proposed State Budget. In late April, these two subcommittees will meet to discuss the possibility of appropriating new library funding in this year’s Budget, at CLA’s request. We need your help to get our message to these key legislators. Without the support of these 8 Senators and Assemblymembers (listed below), it will not be possible to include new funding in the 2015-16 State Budget year for public libraries.

Take Action Today: The “Budget Ask”

CLA is requesting your help in writing to the members of the two subcommittees to urge their strong support of a proposal to provide \$11.5 million in new funding for three very important library programs. The CLA Legislative Committee has developed the following “Budget Ask” for the 2015-16 Budget. This “ask” was developed based on feedback from your “Day in the District” visits with Legislators, where many of you told your Senators and Assembly members that more funding for the California Library Services Act is critical. Additionally, the roll-out of the Governor’s Broadband proposal for libraries and his “AB 86” adult education consortia reforms necessitate additional funding.

Specifically, CLA is requesting \$11.5 million in new funding:

- \$4 million for the California Library Services Act
- \$2 million for the California library literacy program

- \$5 million for connectivity grants, to assist libraries in joining the new broadband network operated by the Corporation for Education Network Initiatives in California (CENIC)

- \$500K in administration costs and staff for the CLSA and broadband project.

Please take a minute today to use the attached “sample letter,” adapting it to reflect the specific needs of your own library or programs, and mail or fax it to the following key legislators. Note: Your letters should be received by these subcommittee members by April 15.

Senate Budget Subcommittee Number 1 on Education Finance

Senator Marty Block, Chair

Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Education Finance

State Capitol, Room 4072

Sacramento, CA. 95814

Fax: (916) 651-4939

Senator Ben Allen, Member

Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Education Finance

State Capitol, Room 2054

Sacramento, CA. 95814

Fax: (916) 651-4926

Senator Mike Morrell, Member

Senate Budget Subcommittee No. 1 on Education Finance

State Capitol, Room 3056

Sacramento, CA. 95814

Fax: (916) 651-4923

Assembly Budget Subcommittee Number 2 on Education Finance

Assemblymember Kevin McCarty, Chair

Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance

State Capitol, Room 2160

Sacramento, CA. 95814

Fax: (916) 319-2107

Assemblymember Rocky Chavez, Member

Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance

State Capitol, Room 2170

Sacramento, CA. 95814

Fax: (916) 319-2176

Assemblymember Young Kim, Member

Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance

State Capitol, Room 4177

Sacramento, CA. 95814

Fax: (916) 319-2165

Assemblymember Patrick O'Donnell, Member

Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance

State Capitol, Room 4166

Sacramento, CA. 95814

Fax: (916) 319-2170

Assemblymember Phil Ting, Member

Assembly Budget Subcommittee No. 2 on Education Finance

State Capitol, Room 3123

Sacramento, CA. 95814

Fax: (916) 319-2119

II. SENATE RESOLUTION CELEBRATES “CALIFORNIA LIBRARY WEEK”

Senator Lois Wolk, a long-standing library champion during her time in the California Legislature, recently introduced a resolution on behalf of the California Library Association (CLA), to celebrate “California Library Week.” The official resolution, SCR 31, recognizes the tremendous work of public libraries, library staff, and the California State Library, and encourages libraries throughout the state to celebrate these efforts during the week of April 12 through April 18, 2015. (“California Library Week” also coincides with “National Library Week.”)

Joining author, Senator Wolk on the resolution, are co-authors, Senators Jerry Hill, Carol Liu, and Jim Nielsen (author of the Public Library Foundation legislation), and Assemblymen Mike Gatto and Rich Gordon.

“California Library Week” is a great time to consider inviting a legislator to your library to tour your facility.

CLA would like to extend a special “thank” you to Senator Wolk for introducing SCR 31.