TO: **Sacramento Public Library Authority Board Members**

FROM: **Rivkah K. Sass, Library Director**

RE: **Director's Report**

RECOMMENDED ACTION: Receive and File.

Sacramento Room

On January 15 we said goodbye to the Sacramento Room's Clare Ellis. Clare has been part of the fabric of the Sacramento Room for 20 years and brought unique skills honed from working at both the Library of Congress and California State Library. Clare's gentle humor and wild side (she loves Bruce Springsteen and Patti Smith) will be missed.

Carlos Alcala, a reporter for *The Sacramento Bee*, wrote a lovely tribute to Clare's contribution to Sacramento Public Library and Sacramento. The article appeared on Monday, January 19.

In addition, Sacramento Room Librarians Tom Tolley and James Scott were interviewed by *Sacramento Bee* reporter Dixie Reed, who published a story on Monday, January 11 about their recently completed publication, *Sacramento's Alkali Flat*, published by Arcadia Press. The book contains fascinating stories of one of Sacramento's most interesting cross roads, including architecture, history, important people (such as Captain Sacto) and industry. Proceeds from the sales of the book benefit the Sacramento Room. Tolley and Scott will be conducting a series of local presentations and book signings, with the first scheduled for 6 to 7:30 p.m. on Wednesday, February 3 in the Sacramento Room located on the second floor balcony of the Central Library.

North Natomas Library Opening

The grand opening of the new North Natomas Library was nothing short of phenomenal. The ceremony drew close to 1,000 people for the opening remarks by local, state and national officials including City of Sacramento Councilmember Ray Tretheway, Sacramento County Supervisor Roger Dickinson, and Congresswoman Doris Matsui. The excitement and enthusiasm were phenomenal. The passion of the Friends group was evident, and the excitement about the day was palpable. One of the last speakers of the day was Briyana Mixon, a senior at Inderkum High School. She captivated the crowd as she told how her experiences at the library helped transform her life. She was radiant and her story still reverberates. She is the perfect reminder of why we are here and how much libraries matter to healthy, thriving communities.

The statistics for the day were equally impressive. Throughout the day 2,931 people visited the Library, checking out just about 4,000 items.

A huge thank you is due to all the people who worked so hard to make the opening of the building a reality. It is a project with many partners and many dedicated people. It was a great reminder of what an incredible staff we have here at SPL.

Going Green Labeling Party at Colonial Heights Library

Sacramento Public Library staff recently joined forces with the teens of Colonial Heights Library to get the message of greener and more efficient service out to our patrons. Communications staff joined the Colonial Heights Teen Advisory Group for the evening of December 23, and helped them label nearly 7,000 postcards bound for patrons without e-mail addresses or phone numbers on file. The postcards inform patrons about the discontinuation of mailed print notices as of January 18, 2010, share all of the benefits of e-mail notification, and instruct them as to how they can update their account information online. Under the watchful eye of Teen Librarian Louise Lalonde (and with the helpful nourishment of a few pizzas), the teens not only assisted the library in completing a daunting task, but learned a little bit about what the library does and how many people outside of their own neighborhood the library serves. Most importantly, everybody had a lot of fun doing it, teens and staff alike. An added bonus is that the Library will save almost $60,000 in postage costs!

CSUS Volunteer Alternative Break Event at Belle Cooledge Library

Forty-five CSUS students signed up to help the Belle Cooledge Library team of staff and volunteers clean their book collection and assist with preparations for Belle Cooledge Friends of the Library book sale on Saturday, January 23. These students joined library volunteers for a full day of service through the CSUS "Alternative Break" program—a great program that provides much needed service to diverse communities, while building skills and great friendships. It will be a day of great fun, great results and, of course, pizza for lunch! Additional information about the program is available at http://www.csus.edu/cec/Alt_Break.stm.

Celebrate Diversity at Sacramento Public Library in February

LibraryTime news magazine has named Sacramento as "America's Most (Culturally) Diverse City." In February, through a series of programs titled "Celebrate Diversity", the Sacramento community is invited to join the Library to learn, enjoy, and share our rich cultural heritage. The fifteen programs in the "Celebrate Diversity" series will be presented at libraries throughout the region and will feature informational presentations, dance, music, food and crafts. The month of multicultural celebrations is being presented by the Library in concert with the Sacramento Public Library Multicultural Council, the Library's multicultural advisory citizen group.

Library Openings and Closings – February and March

Please join us at 11:00 a.m. on Saturday February 13 as Rancho Cordova Library reopens.

The library branch has been closed since October 26 for refurbishment and renovation. Among the building's new features are a "just for teens" area with four new computers, new lounge space with comfy furniture and an expanded view of the landscaped patio, colorful new carpet, an enhanced children's area, more catalog computers and expanded self-check opportunities. Two large book drops have also been added for customer convenience. In addition, the staff workroom has been renovated through a generous bequest from a passionate library

volunteer and member of the Rancho Cordova Friends of the Library, Anne Richardson.

The opening ceremony will be brief but enthusiastic.

Once Rancho Cordova is open for business, Arden-Dimick will close briefly to reconfigure the public area a bit to create a single service desk. This continues the implementation of our Model for Service plan.

Planning continues for work on the Belle Cooledge Library. Staff anticipates the branch will close for renovation sometime in March. A meeting with previous donors is scheduled for January 28 to review plans and solicit feedback on the project. Please join us if you can.

Valley Hi-North Laguna Zip Code Change

When the new Valley Hi-North Laguna Library opened we discovered that the zip code for the library showed an Elk Grove address. Thank you to Councilmember Pannell and her staff for pushing the change through with the U.S. Postal Service. We are in the process of updating our web site and all printed materials to reflect that the library is indeed inside Sacramento city limits.

Budget Planning

Finance staff have been busy meeting with staff in all work areas to review current year budget expenditures and to plan for FY 2010-11. The Finance staff has been very proactive in making sure that all staff involved in budgeting have the training and skills needed to get the job done correctly and in a timely manner.

Thank You to the Sacramento Public Library Foundation

The Sacramento Public Library Foundation organized the 2009 Branch Booster campaign at a time when fundraising had become very challenging. However, the mailer went out last summer and volunteers staffed the phone bank to raise support for teen services. Donors could choose to dedicate their donations to a branch or to a location "most in need." All branches received support in this manner and over $30,000 (similar to last year) was raised for the Library teen services books and materials or programs. All funds went to the Library. This campaign is making a great difference for system libraries demonstrates what is, and can be, provided for teens.

Director Meetings

As we look at how to provide the best possible library service in the most cost-effective manner, we have been actively talking with staff about improvements. On December 18 all of the staff who select books and other materials for the library met to discuss ways in which this process might be improved, which in turn would save money resulting in the ability to purchase more materials. I very much appreciate how honest people were, how solution-oriented they were and how much we accomplished in two short hours. The follow up is a smaller group who will be meeting to develop a plan of action. We were able to discuss openly and honestly some of the challenges we face and how we might move forward in solving them. Once again it was a reminder to me that staff here at Sacramento Public Library are dedicated, thoughtful people who want to do a great job.

I also had the privilege of meeting with almost all of the branch supervisors for a brown bag lunch on January 8. Again, I appreciate the honesty as supervisors shared the challenges of too few staff, increasing workloads, the day-to-day issues that constantly require putting out fires, the need for training and sometimes feeling overwhelmed. The best outcome for me was the affirmation that living our organizational values is the first step in engaging staff at all levels.

One of the most important things for managers to remember is that the reason we are all here is to serve our constituents. The staff out there providing direct service need and deserve our support.

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A: Public Services Statistics – December 2009
Attachment B: Branch Friends Book Sale Events

SACRAMENTO PUBLIC LIBRARY

MONTHLY PUBLIC SERVICES STATISTICS

December 2009

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Sacramento Public Library Authority

Date: January 28, 2010

To: Sacramento Public Library Authority Board Members

From: Alison Landers, Deputy Director, Public Services

Subject: Branch Friends Book Sale Events

In the chart below you will find a list of upcoming Friends book sales scheduled at SPL branches during the months of January, February, March and April 2010.

Branch/Event	Location	Date	Time
Arcade Library	2443 Marconi Avenue Sacramento, CA 95821	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Arden-Dimick Library	891 Watt Avenue Sacramento, CA 95864	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Belle Cooledge Library	5600 South Land Park Dr. Sacramento, CA 95822	Ongoing Book Sale Saturday, January 23, 2010 Sunday, January 24, 2010	Daily-During Open Hours 9am to 5pm 9am to 5pm
Carmichael Library	5605 Marconi Avenue Carmichael, CA 95608	Ongoing Book Sale 1st Saturday in Feb & March 2010 1st Sunday in Feb & March 2010	Daily-During Open Hours 10am – 5pm 11am – 4pm
Central Library	828 I Street Sacramento, CA 95814	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Colonial Heights Library	4799 Stockton Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95820	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Courtland Library	170 Primasing Avenue Courtland, CA 95615	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Del Paso Heights Library	920 Grand Avenue Sacramento, CA 95838	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Elk Grove Library	8962 Elk Grove Blvd. Elk Grove, CA 95624	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
E.K. McClatchy Library	2112 22nd Street Sacramento, CA 95818	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Fair Oaks Library	11601 Fair Oaks Blvd. Fair Oaks, CA 95628	Ongoing Book Sale Saturday, February 13, 2010 Tue-Sat, February 16-20, 2010	Daily-During Open Hours 10am to 4pm During Open Hours
Franklin Library	10055 Franklin High Road Elk Grove, CA 95757	Ongoing Book Sale Friday, February 26, 2010 Saturday, February 27, 2010	Daily-During Open Hours 12pm – 5pm 10am – 4pm
Galt-Marian O. Lawrence Library	1000 Caroline Avenue Galt, CA 95632	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Isleton Library	412 Union Street Isleton, CA 95641	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Martin Luther King, Jr. Library	7340 24th Street Bypass Sacramento, CA 95822	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
McKinley Library	601 Alhambra Blvd. Sacramento, CA 95816	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
North Natomas Library	2500 North Market Dr. Sacramento, CA 95835	Closed Nov. 23, 2009 to Jan. 3, 2010 Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
North Highlands-Antelope Library	4235 Antelope Road Antelope, CA 95843	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
North Sacramento-Hagginwood Library	2109 Del Paso Blvd., Sacramento, CA 95815	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours

Branch/Event	Location	Date	Time
Orangevale Library	8820 Greenback Ln., #L Orangevale, CA 95662	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Rancho Cordova Library	9845 Folsom Blvd. Rancho Cordova, CA 95827	Closed for remodel – Reopening February 2010	
Rio Linda Library	902 Oak Lane Rio Linda, CA 95673	Ongoing Book Sale Friday, March 12, 2009 Saturday, March 13, 2009	Daily-During Open Hours 8am to 5pm 8am to 5pm
South Natomas Library	2901 Truxel Road Sacramento CA 95833	Ongoing Book Sale Saturday, March 13, 2010 Tue-Sat, March, 16 – 20, 2010	Daily-During Open Hours 8am – 4pm Daily-During Open Hours
Southgate Library	6132 66th Avenue Sacramento CA 95823	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Sylvan Oaks Library	6700 Auburn Blvd. Citrus Heights, CA 95621	Ongoing Book Sale Saturday, February 6, 2010 Saturday, April 3, 2010	Daily-During Open Hours 11am to 3:30pm 11am to 3:30pm
Valley Hi-North Laguna Library	7400 Imagination Pkwy Sacramento, CA 95621	Ongoing Book Sale	Daily-During Open Hours
Walnut Grove Library	14177 Market Street Walnut Grove, CA 95690	Every Thursday	1pm – 4:30pm
Friends of the Sacramento Public Library For general information Call (916) 264-2880	8250 Belvedere Ave. Ste E, Sacramento, CA	Saturday, January 9, 2010 Saturday, January 16, 2010	9am to 3pm 9am to 3pm

Look for the next book sale report in April 2010.

If you would like to discuss these events or need additional information, please contact me at 264-2747 or alanders@saclibrary.org. Also, go to www.saclibrary.org, click ***Events*** tab; select search criteria (Date Range, Event Type, and Location); select the ***Display Format*** of your choice; and, finally, click ***Find*** to view book sales.