

**FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT  
Board of Trustees Public Meeting**

*June 14, 2004*

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

Chair Merle Koplan called the meeting to order at 4:00 p.m. at Goldendale Community Library. She moved the meeting immediately into executive session to discuss legal matters and union negotiations. Executive session ended at 4:40 p.m. with no action taken. Koplan reconvened the public meeting at 6:00 p.m.

**2. PRESENT**

Chair Merle Koplan presiding. Board members: Marilyn Butler, Jerry King and Karen Peterson. Staff attending included: Bruce Ziegman, Executive Director; Patty Duitman, Associate Director; Doreen Turpen, Associate Director; Sue Vanlaanen, Associate Director; Mary Devlin, Associate Director; Naomi Fisher, Goldendale Community Librarian and Becky Pettigrew, recording.

Others staff and citizens attending: Nancy Barron, Teddy Cole, Kathleen Goode, Mary Jean Lord and Sara Wu.

**3. AGENDA**

The agenda was approved as presented.

**4. MINUTES**

The minutes of the May 10, 2004 meeting were approved as emailed.

**5. ANNOUNCEMENTS**

On behalf of the board, Koplan thanked Friends of Goldendale Community Library for the meal they provided prior to the meeting. Koplan also thanked the board for their work this past month while she was out of town.

Ziegman introduced Mary Devlin, new Associate Director for Community Libraries. During Devlin's first week, Ziegman plans to provide her with a tour of each branch library. Devlin said that she has enjoyed the opportunity to visit the Goldendale branch on her first day.

**6. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

None.

**7. BUSINESS**

**A. Expenditure Approval**

**MOTION: Jerry King moved and Marilyn Butler seconded approval of the accounts payable, payroll and payroll payables as presented. The motion passed unanimously.**

B. Three Creeks Library Capital Facility Area Expenditure Approval

**MOTION:** Jerry King moved and Marilyn Butler seconded approval of the Three Creeks Library Capital Facility Area expenditures. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Policy Committee

Koplan said that the Policy Committee reviews policies on a regular cycle. On behalf of the committee, King gave a summary of the changes to the policies that were reviewed. He noted that former Associate Director Candy Morgan had worked on a number of the policy updates before she retired.

- **Bulletin Boards and Spaces for Public Use**

King explained that the draft policy clarifies how the space may be used, including noting where campaign materials can be placed. As part of First Amendment rights, people may post information without having to identify themselves, which has been reflected in the draft.

- **Exhibit Spaces, Public Use of**

Political and campaign materials have also been addressed in this policy revision. Bulter asked about the difference between distribution space and exhibit space, as they are handled differently. It was clarified that a current candidate cannot display information in an exhibit space, but they could put their information on tables.

Koplan asked about the removal of the exhibit. King clarified that the exhibitor must remove their items at the end of the exhibit during the time that has been agreed upon with staff. Peterson asked if a signed agreement is completed with the exhibitor? Turpen said that there is a letter from staff that explains exhibitor responsibilities, and the exhibitor must return the letter with their information completed.

- **Library Premises, Expression of Opinion On**

King noted that the words “where feasible” were included due to library space limitations. Peterson asked who makes the determination about having enough space? Ziegman said it is at the discretion of the branch librarian. It was clarified that a patron could appeal the decision to Ziegman if they disagreed. King also noted that the requirement for stating the sponsors’ name on material being distributed or displayed was removed from the policy.

- **Meeting Rooms, Public Use of**

Changes to this policy include a few grammar corrections and updates such as the reference to policies on the library’s Web site. Koplan noted that the policy is now more consistent in style with the others that the board has updated.

- **Political Paraphernalia: Wearing & Displaying in the Library**

King said that the reference to the library bill of rights was removed since it is not necessary to include it here. A few other minor changes were made to correct grammar. The wording “on matters of public concern” was taken out

because it is not the proper role of the board or management to determine what staff could do on their own time.

Sara Wu asked where the library would draw the line about employees wearing buttons with strong political overtones? King said that there could be some interpretation as to whether something is political or not. Ziegman added that we try to take a common sense approach. Employees should not wear buttons or messages about issues that are clearly political, for example, issues related to measures currently on the ballot or social issues where there is much debate. However, Ziegman said the library allows its union employees to wear t-shirts that support the union. If there were complaints, Ziegman said the library would then take it into consideration.

- **Discrimination & Anti-Harassment**

King explained that management has had procedures in place related to discrimination and anti-harassment and so this is nothing new. Duitman added that the procedures are in the Personnel Manual. Ziegman further explained our attorney recommended including this topic in a formal policy as good practice.

- **Planning & Development**

King reported that information that is repeated in other policies was removed from here. Several changes were discussed, including:

- Adding a reference to the budget as a planning document. This wording was suggested as a new sentence at the end of the policy: “Considers, conducts hearing on and adopts budget and amendments thereto.”
- Removing or changing the reference to “reserve account” (it may imply the reserve fund, and may be too specific for a policy).
- Hiring the executive director is one of the board’s main roles and should be included here.

Ziegman suggested delaying the approval of this policy so that staff could combine all policies related to the role of the board so they can be reviewed together. Peterson said that this policy doesn’t really address what she thought it should. Koplan tabled this policy, and said it would be reviewed at a future meeting.

**MOTION: Jerry King moved and Karen Peterson seconded approval of the following draft policies as they were presented:**

- *Bulletin Boards and Spaces for Public Use*
- *Exhibit Spaces, Public Use of*
- *Library Premises, Expression of Opinion On*
- *Meeting Rooms, Public Use of*
- *Political Paraphernalia: Wearing and Displaying in the Library*
- *Discrimination and Anti-Harassment Policy*

**The motion carried unanimously.**

Koplan thanked the staff and the policy committee for their work on the updates. Ziegman gave acknowledgment to Duitman for her work on the policies. He also noted that there are only five policies left that have not been reviewed since the year 2000.

## 8. REPORTS

### A. Community Library Services

A written report from Candy Morgan was provided (attached).

Community Librarian Naomi Fisher shared an update on Goldendale activities. The Goldendale library was founded in 1912 by the local women's association. In 1914, the Carnegie library was built. Thanks to local support, the library building was remodeled and expanded in 1985. The Camplan Room, where the board's meeting was conducted, was part of the expansion. The community gave nearly 40% of the money for the renovation. Fisher said that the library is still benefiting from that kind of support. They have a strong Friends of the Library group with many active members. Offers for collaborative projects in our community continue to be made and regular donations show the community's pride in its library. Despite a slight population decrease in town, registered borrowers increased by 12% last year. More than 70% of the population in the area has library cards. Every month, new people coming into the community visit the library. Fisher said that many newcomers report to her that the library resource is one of the reasons they chose to move here.

More than 150 programs were offered last year at the branch and an additional 89 on bookmobile, all conducted by the branch's 6 public service employees. Fisher explained the wide range of programming that is offered to all age groups, from babies, kids and teens to adults. Goldendale is part of the Diversity Grant project with English Conversation Circles being conducted weekly. Reports from the end of April show that Hispanic participants constituted 40% of all Hispanics participating in the Circles district-wide. The program is continuing into the summer. Fisher also mentioned that a needs assessment done last year by the local community college has resulted in ESL classes being offered to the community.

Fisher mentioned the partners that the branch is collaborating with, including HeadStart, Kiwanis and Maryhill Museum. The museum is piloting a project to circulate a free museum pass that patrons can check out from the library as a way for those who can't afford it to go there.

The branch's annual Ice Cream Social, which is co-hosted by the Friends group, will be on Thursday, August 12. Fisher invited everyone to attend.

### B. Communications

Vanlaanen shared a printout of the latest Web site refreshment. The home page will include space to spotlight a library service, such as "Ask a Librarian / Question of the Week" that will be highlighted when the refreshment is launched

soon. Also, Vanlaanen reported that the site search feature is now functioning thanks to the efforts of Information Technology Manager Melinda Chesbro.

It was explained that Question of the Week is a sampling of the types of questions the library receives. Staff makes up the questions that will be used on the Web site, rather than using real questions received from patrons (to protect patron confidentiality). Answers include online resources, books and magazines, community resources and more. The refreshed site will be launched June 21.

Vanlaanen also reported that Summer Reading is in full swing, with the work done by Graphics now completed.

C. Support Services

Duitman's written report is attached. She noted that financials were included in the board's packet. The library is still seeking an accounting manager. Teresa Johnson, a former examiner with the Washington State Auditor's office, will be helping the library on a contractual basis until the position is filled.

Duitman reported that Internet printing has decreased dramatically since pay for print was launched. As a result, the Vancouver and Three Creeks branches have noticed that there is less noise with the printers running less. Koplan asked if there has been much objection from patrons. Duitman responded that very few patrons have complained; so far, staff has received one verbal and one written complaint. Instead, Duitman said there have been significantly more positive comments that this is a good fiscal choice for the library.

Children's Internet Stations are not up yet and the deadline was end of May for four branches. Staff are waiting for the SAM filter software to be updated so that it will work properly, and this should be completed very soon. Staff may choose to wait until after Summer Reading is completed to have the new stations installed. Regardless, all the stations will be installed by the Labor Day deadline for all locations.

The separation of filtered/unfiltered and filtered only Internet computers will be completed soon. Necessary remodeling at the Vancouver library will be completed next week to accommodate the move. Duitman said the change would be completed at the Three Creeks library in the middle of July following some electrical work. The changes will be finished this week at the Vancouver Mall branch.

Internet connections for branches in Skamania and Klickitat Counties were switched from Sprint to SawNet, bringing a saving of about \$3,000 per month. This covers just Internet use. Butler asked what we were paying before? Duitman said it was about \$6,000, so costs have been cut in half.

D. Vancouver and District Programs

Doreen Turpen's written report is attached. She noted that this is her last report to cover Vancouver Community Library. Tom Taylor is serving as interim

Vancouver Community Librarian until the position is filled. After the position is filled, he will begin his new position as Reference Coordinator.

Turpen noted that moving the Internet computers at Vancouver would also get them out of the aisle way, so that you don't need to pass them in order to go to the collection. However, a side effect is that part of the magazine display area will be lost since the new arrangement will take up more space. Due to the space reconfiguration, the Vancouver library will also lose several pieces of furniture. King expressed gratitude that some of the magazines will be kept on display since many patrons enjoy this feature and need the nearby seating as well. Ziegman said not having enough room is one of the constant battles in Vancouver.

It was confirmed that the popular "Did You Miss Me?" table containing books from the library's storage area would be retained.

E. FVRL Foundation

Rick Smithrud and Shirley Morgan were unable to attend the meeting. Ziegman provided an update on Foundation activities (see below).

9. DIRECTOR'S REPORT

Ziegman said he is a member of the Community Choices 2010 board and has included a copy of the CC2010 "Report Card" in the library board's packet. The purpose of CC2010 is to examine the health of the community in a variety of aspects and serve as a catalyst for its improvement.

FVRL has completed an updated facility agreement for the Washougal Community Library with the City of Washougal. Peterson asked about the time length for the contract. Ziegman said that it does not include a termination date; instead it has a cancellation clause that allows termination with notice by either party.

The library board's policy has always been that FVRL would provide library service at no charge to non-residents that pay for library service elsewhere. Not every library district provides this in return. Ziegman reported that FVRL is in the process of signing a reciprocal borrowing agreement with Yakima Valley Regional Library (YVRL). Without this Agreement, FVRL patrons wishing to obtain an YVRL card would need to pay them a \$70 annual fee. Fisher added that some patrons in Klickitat County are closer to YVRL than they are to the Goldendale branch. So for them, this would be a very valuable service.

The City of Woodland has applied for a \$1 million Cowlitz County economic development grant to build a new Woodland library. There are eight applicants. Ziegman said that several staff and Friends plan to attend the grant hearing the following morning. The outcome should be announced by mid-July.

The FVRL Foundation held their retreat in late-May. Ziegman reported that their discussions included:

- They will continue to employ David DiCesare as a Foundation employee until the end of 2004. DiCesare was the Vancouver Project Planner for the library and helped with the library's information campaign.

- The Assistant Foundation Director position has been changed to a Marketing Director position.
- Heidi Bixby has been designated Chair of the Foundation Board again this year.
- The Foundation has approved an amount of money for library programming for the year, which in the past has been doled out throughout the year; this should simplify the process.

He also noted that a mural has been painted in the children's area of the new La Center library.

Ziegman said he plans to attend the ALA conference later in June.

Candidates' presentations for the new Vancouver Community Library will be conducted on July 6 at 6 p.m. at Vancouver Community Library. Public participation is invited. Ziegman extended an invitation to board members.

Ziegman asked board members if they would be interested in reviewing materials from the Managing Angry Publics web and audio seminar that Admin Team recently participated in. The seminar is geared to boards and administrators to help them participate in positive ways with others. It was agreed that the materials would be circulated among board members prior to being discussed at a future meeting.

**10. CITIZEN COMMENTS**

Teddy Cole said she finds it heartwarming to have the library board come to the Goldendale branch for a meeting each year, and to see how board members work through the agenda and make decisions. She added that she is heartened to know that citizens have such a board. Board members thanked Cole for her comments. Butler and Peterson also expressed appreciation for Fisher's report about the Goldendale library's history and activities.

**11. BOARD COMMENTS**

None.

**12. NEXT REGULAR MEETING**

The next regular meeting will be on Monday, July 12, 6 p.m. at Woodland School District Offices.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

*These minutes were approved at the July 12, 2004 meeting*

**COMMUNITY LIBRARY SERVICES  
REPORT TO THE LIBRARY BOARD**

June 14, 2004

Submitted by Candace Morgan

Some May 2004 highlights from branches and other Community Library Services Departments:

**Goldendale / Klickitat County Bookmobile**

I have attached some historical information concerning the Goldendale Community Library to the end of this report.

The annual High School Arts Fest is underway at the library. The art show is hanging in the Camplan Room and there will be two musical programs the first week in June. Naomi Fisher (Community Librarian) reports that this is always an extremely popular event.

A number of recurring adult programs will continue throughout the summer including Writer's Colony and Song Circle. The Wendy Warren writers' workshops will also continue during the summer. These workshops are funded by the Olsen Bequest as a part of the Friends and Library co-sponsored Klickitat County Encyclopedia Project. The mission of this project is "to preserve and promote the culture of Klickitat County by generating and disseminating a collection of information reflecting the character, lore, and diversity of the area". The goal is to create and publish a book with the tentative working title of *Juicy Bits: Klickitat County A to Z*. The tutors and students of the English Language Conversation Circles all wanted to continue meeting also. During May the attendance at the Goldendale Circles ranged from 10 – 13, all from Mexico.

Goldendale is once again fully staffed. The vacancy created when Heidi Henning accepted a position in White Salmon was filled when Susan Kerwin began work as a Library Assistant IV on April 23<sup>rd</sup>. Trish Segal (Young Adult Coordinator) has been helping with the Teen'scape program. This program will now be taken over by Susan.

After a period of down time the bookmobile satellite and PC Reliance are working again. Naomi reports that Brenda Cameron was invaluable in helping to resolve problems with PC Reliance.

Naomi reports that she received a special comment from a patron concerning the good service she received from Library Assistant Judy Bane. The patron made a donation of \$500 and said "Your worker Judy is responsible for your getting this!" She went on to explain how helpful Judy had been to her.

**La Center**

The La Center Community Library staff report that the opening of the La Center Branch on May 8<sup>th</sup> was truly a time that all of FVRL could be proud of. They describe the finishing of this project as somewhat like a barnbuilding where neighbors all got together and created something that would last 100 years. Thanks to donations, grants, the generosity of so many of the branches and the hard work of Collection Development and TSD the branch opened with a collection of 11,505 volumes. All departments in the Library District did a wonderful job with very limited resources to help make this happen. Cyndy Volk, Circulation Supervisor, reports that there is not a person who doesn't walk in for the first time and says "OH WOW this is just beautiful and we are so lucky to have it".

Furniture for the YA area that was purchased with a donation by the MallPark YAAB has arrived and teens are flocking to it.

The schools have been busy signing up classes for Summer Reading and starting their tours of the library. The high school is discussing class visits to work on research projects.

A community that has not had a library branch since 1968 when the building within which it was located was sold will take some time to develop the habit of coming to the library on a regular basis. Library staff plan to promote the library through outreach to the entire community and to continue to be involved in community activities in partnership with the Friends. Circulation for May was impressive for a new library of this size. They circulated 3,614 items. In comparison Woodland checked out 4,746 items during the same three weeks. The branch registered 150 new borrowers. Two hundred and thirty eight (238) holds were placed and 367 holds

were filled. The Foundation is continuing to apply for grants for library materials and furniture.

### **Woodland**

The Woodland branch and its staff are pleased to announce that they survived the opening of the La Center branch and are still smiling. Woodland patrons are excited about this year's Summer Reading Program and came in a constant stream to sign up the first day.

Woodland provides regular story times for both the Coop Preschool and Headstart. Both groups continue to grow in numbers and are outgrowing the available space. We recently learned that the size of the Headstart group will double next year.

The Friends of the Woodland Community Library have received a bequest for their library building fund of at least \$50,000 from the estate of a regular library user, Margaret (Maggie) McQuarrie. Cowlitz County has opened a grant cycle for up to \$1 million from its Rural County Public Facility Fund. The City decided to apply for a grant for the library building project with the support of the Library and the Friends. I have attached a fact sheet on the building project to this report.

### **Stevenson / North Bonneville / Skamania County Bookmobile**

Plans are underway for the 25<sup>th</sup> annual Artists of the Gorge Exhibition in October. The Friends will once again co-sponsor the event with the Library. There will be the customary Juror's choice prizes for \$150 and \$100. The Friends have also proposed a special purchase award this year - \$300 will be set aside to purchase an artwork with a Lewis & Clark Exploration theme. All media will be considered. This work will become part of the Stevenson Library's permanent art collection to commemorate the 25<sup>th</sup> year of the exhibit, as well as the Lewis & Clark Bicentennial.

The gallery was filled this month with "Go Figure!" a traveling exhibit that uses children's literature to bring the world of math to children 2 – 7 years old. The exhibit was produced by the Minnesota Children's Museum, the American Library Association's Public Programs Office and the Association for Library Service to Children. Major funding was provided by the National Science Foundation with additional support from Cargill and 3M. The text is in both English and Spanish. The cost of bringing the exhibit for a month to Stevenson was paid by Stevenson's BRIDGES grant from ESD 112. During the month a number of preschool and day-care groups scheduled tours of the exhibit. Mara Reynolds (Community Librarian) spent many hours making this exhibit happen. She notes that although this exhibit is designed for children in the early years, she noticed that even the older kids who come with their younger siblings thoroughly enjoyed the interactive aspects of the exhibit, which teaches simple math concepts – underscoring the fact that math is, indeed, fun!

The exhibit was complemented by a "Fun with Math" display in the glass case upstairs. It included various artifacts having to do with mathematics (such as the Rubik's cube, a metronome, the game of GO, etc.) from the collections of Mario Milosevic and Sheila Box-Lee.

Scott Tingley (Facilities) planted 16 additional Oregon grape plants on the library grounds. This was much appreciated since some of the Oregon grape plants that Mara and members of the Friends had recently transplanted from the Gifford Pinchot National Forest did not survive. The Stevenson Library was landscaped as a reminder of the northwest forest environment. Mara reports that it is looking good.

This month also featured several special programs. Barbara Keser, Ken Jernstedt and his dog "Driscoll" presented a guide-dog program. Four other guide dogs were present. The program was well received and was featured in a front page story in the *Pioneer*. Cynthia Dominik (Library Assistant) coordinated a library co-sponsored program, "Jugglemania," with Rhys Thomas. It was the BRIDGES grand finale for the year and was held at the Wind River Middle School. The 102 attendees included BRIDGES program participants from both elementary schools and WRMS, as well as people from the community at large.

### **Young Adult Services**

It has been a very busy month for teen services. Trish Segal (Coordinator) held 10 book discussions at Frontier Middle School with 6-8th graders in the low-level reading program. They discussed 6 different books during their lunch hour and the school provided pizza. The FVRL Foundation paid for the books that the kids got to keep after the discussion. Trish also led three book discussions at the Clark County Juvenile Detention Center.

Kiggins Theatre agreed to host the Backlight Film Festival that Trish is producing at the end of June. She received a \$1000 grant from the National Television Academy for the event, which will pay for the theatre rental and prizes.

Take a look at the new teen site on fvrl.org. Trish and Melinda Chesbro (IT), assisted by Jeanne Heikkinen took the lead on this project. A number of teens reviewed and contributed their ideas during the design stage.

Special summer reading programs for teens are being planned by Vancouver, Three Creeks, Ridgefield, Cascade Park / Vancouver Mall, Stevenson, Goldendale and Washougal – the most FVRL has ever had. Trish is also coordinating the development of a number of teen book discussion groups that will begin in many branches in the fall.

### **Children's Services and Family Literacy**

Much of Jacquelyn Keith's (Coordinator) time this month was spent on completing preparations for summer reading. She made a presentation at the Foundation Retreat, highlighting the programs the Foundation supports. We are very pleased that, thanks to support from the Foundation, summer reading incentive prizes will be various stuffed animals and toys instead of food. Many of these prizes bring to mind characters and themes of children's literature.

You will begin to see LeapPads replacing story stations in many branches. In fact, they are already in Woodland and La Center. The story stations have served their purpose well, but we can no longer find software for them that works with our network. Furthermore we are running out of space for workstations in most branches. The LeapPad is a light-weight, portable and affordable educational product. It introduces children to books and reading with interactive books and activities that develop vocabulary, spelling, and phonics awareness. Various models are available for different ages. We will focus on preschool since the new Brain Stations will focus on elementary age children.

### **Technical Services**

Yvonne Iverson (Manager) has been working on the setup of Serials Solutions. This service will make it possible to search both our Electronic Journal and print subscriptions by title or subject from the on-line catalog.

Now that the La Center project is winding down, Jackie King, Tricia Leppo, Julie Rea and Kelly Kovarik (TSD Assistants) have been spending 5 hour work periods to input and process gifts sent in for other branches. They are making great progress towards the goal to get all of the boxes of donations out of the warehouse and on to the shelves.

Much of TSD is about statistics and May is no exception. During the month 1,072 items were mended, acquisitions ordered 2,516 titles and 8,025 volumes; 2,022 titles and 6,747 volumes were received and cataloging put through 7,924 items, representing 1,928 new titles.

### **Collection Development**

Jackie Youngblood (Manager) has been tracking the publishing shift from video to DVD for several years. She recently informed us that the number of non-fiction titles available in the DVD format has reached a point where it makes sense to begin to shift some of the funds allocated for non-fiction videos to DVD. Branch Librarians and the Administrative Team agreed and this format will soon begin to appear in the catalog and on the shelves.

Each month every branch weeds the same part of the collection according to a schedule developed by Collection Development with public service input. In January Meg Zaleski began preparing weeding guidelines

each month for the part of the collection being weeded. The selector for the particular section usually prepares a short questionnaire about the weeding experience that month in preparation for a collection discussion at the next month's Branch Meeting. The branch librarians are finding this process, especially the guidelines, to be very useful in making their decisions. At the end of the year Meg will have produced a FVRL Weeding Handbook.

### **Circulation Services / Building Projects**

Brenda Cameron is finishing up her responsibilities as building projects coordinator. The concrete tables for the Three Creeks courtyard have been installed and there is a new chair and a cushion for the rocker in the children's area. Dennis Sword (Facilities) is coordinating the installation of a granite fountain in the courtyard with Avril Massey. The fountain will be paid for by the North Salmon Creek Neighborhood Association with the remaining funds donated by Fred Meyer to support the Three Creeks LCFA bond measure campaign.

Much of Brenda's time this month was devoted to the implementation of the pay for Internet printing project. She made 15 branch visits (some branches were visited twice) and spent 27 hours training at branches. She reports that it was a very positive experience.

### **Battle Ground**

The annual Battle Ground Library Volunteer Appreciation Reception was held on Tuesday evening, May 4, at the 1<sup>st</sup> & Clark Building. Julie Spencer (Circulation Supervisor) coordinated the event, with assistance from Sharon Hruby (Library Assistant), who called and got about 15 door prizes donated from local businesses. The Battle Ground Rose Float Princesses helped serve refreshments and made a presentation on their activities. All of the various categories of branch volunteers were represented: book sale volunteers, literacy tutors, mailer recyclers, YAAB members, and Friends. Sue Barrows (Assistant Community Librarian) assisted Jackie Spurlock (Community Librarian) with the setup, and conducted the door prize drawing. As always, Sherry Braga (Volunteer Coordinator) was extremely helpful with the details of this event, from planning to decoration.

The branches preschool story times and Book Babies (lapsit) finished during the week of May 17. They will resume the first week of July. They are considering the addition of a second weekly lapsit in September and are polling parents to find the most convenient day/time, which may well be an evening or weekend. The lapsits consistently attract between 15 and 20 babies, plus parents and older siblings, which really is too large for that age. Jackie notes that parents must clearly value the program as they keep coming back despite the large group.

The first of over 40 classes that have been scheduled for Summer Reading promotion began the end of the month. Most of the classes will come to the library, but staff also go out to the schools upon request. They are primarily focusing on grades K-4, 6, and 9 in the Battle Ground and Hockinson School Districts, as well as private schools in the area.

### **Vancouver Mall**

Barbra Meisenheimer (Community Librarian) and Jacquelyn Keith (Children's Services and Family Literacy) presented a Read program with Sifton Elementary School attended by 33 children and 10 adults.

Summer Reading promotion is in full swing. Kim Carroll (Assistant Community Librarian) contacted all of the schools served by the Mall Library and set times for staff to visit them to talk about summer reading. Barbra attended the Evergreen Media Specialists meeting and talked about the summer reading program. Cynthia and I attended Orchards Elementary School's open house and gave out 56 library cards.

May was Senior Citizen month with the theme Aging Well – Living Well. Vancouver Mall sponsored four programs: (1) Caring for Aging Parents with Kay Mueller from the SW Washington Agency on Aging; (2) Wills and Estate Planning by Robert W. Ives, a Vancouver attorney (3) Discovering Your Roots, a program on getting started doing your own genealogy, presented by Bill Duchie from the Clark County Genealogy Society; and (4) Gardening in Small Places presented by the Master Gardeners from WSU.

## **Washougal**

The Washougal City Council approved a revised Interlocal Agreement concerning our use of their building for a library. The new City Administrator, Nabel Shawa, is a strong library supporter and was very helpful in this process. The previous agreement was executed in 1980 when Washougal was still a contract city.

Cottonwood Beach, located in Washougal, was an important campsite for Lewis and Clark and the branch receives many Lewis and Clark related reference questions. Sean McGill arranged for the staff to attend a Camas Community Education lecture designed for business people who want to be prepared to share information about Lewis and Clark with tourists.

Sean was on vacation this month so Jacquelyn Keith met with the Hathaway BRIDGES class at the Library to present information about the Summer Reading program and to share her extensive knowledge about children's books.

## **Cascade Park**

The Cascade Park and Vancouver Mall Friends co-sponsored the annual Friends Fair at the Water Resource Center. Teresa Torres and Barbra Meisenheimer (Community Librarians) worked with the Foundation and Friends to plan the day. Based on the comments I received from Branch Librarians and my own experience the new format with subject based breakout brainstorming sessions was a success. Friends from all over the District picked up new ideas to share with their groups and they had a fun time also.

Ryan Ellis (Circulation Supervisor) and Teresa participated in the Evergreen Parade and festival. Ryan drove the bookmobile and Teresa walked the parade along with several members of the Friends group. Ryan stayed at the festival for a while so community members could visit the bookmobile.

The branch hosted a teen improv night based on the popular TV show Whose Line is it Anyway? Teens. Teens took turns out acting scenes that Ryan and Teresa invented —and also scenes the teens concocted. The teens who participated and the parents who stayed to watch had a great time.

## **Three Creeks**

The branch participated in the Hazel Dell Parade. Caryn Sipos (Community Librarian) rode in the bookmobile with Erica Rhodes (Vancouver Circulation). Six teens from the Three Creeks YAAB group marched and gave out "stuff". The week before the parade, two YAAB members, Cassianna and Brook, talked to Caryn because they had a few more hours to do for their senior projects. They asked if there was an upcoming program for which they could sign for the library. They made up a script and walked the entire parade route signing as they went. The message was "We are the Friends of the Library. Come and join us this summer for reading and fun at a library near you." Caryn reports that at the beginning of the parade they saw a man watching the parade and looking glum. When he saw the signers, he ran into the house and came back with his wife. She started crying! They signed to Cassie and Brook "Thanks for signing. We have never seen signs in a parade before". The girls signed back. This continued the whole route. Many people talked to them in sign, kids and adults. There was a large contingent from the School for the Deaf who were thrilled to see them.

The Three Creeks branch is fully staffed! Ann Dibble and Rosie Lundquist started this month. Alexa Eccles (Circulation Supervisor) and Bridget Cain-Bushman (Assistant Community Librarian), assisted by Holly Blosser (Training Coordinator) and Megan Dugan (Associate Floater) are training all the new staff members. They are also using this opportunity to to up-date other staff on new procedures and to document current procedures to share with other branches.

Thanks to Facilities the branch has some new and badly needed lights: one above the schedule, one for the flagpole and one for the sign on the front of the building.

Caryn and Barbra Meisenheimer from the Mall attended a reading group at Skyview High School. Each adult paid \$15.00 to sponsor 2 students for breakfast and snacks. Community adult volunteers including 65 seniors led the book discussions.

## **White Salmon**

The *anomalies*, the winning band for this year's FVRL Battle of the Bands, played in the White Salmon gallery on May 4. The program was attended by 80 teens, kids and parents. The YAAB hosted the event and served popcorn and soft drinks. Admission was free with a library card. Thanks to the FVRL Foundation for the teen program food fund. If a teen is going to have the strength to read and attend library events he or she has to eat – often. If it were not for the Foundation FVRL's teen programming would be much less successful.

The third music/history series program, *Joanie and the Chipsters*, coordinated by Andre Lamoreaux, was a wonderful success. This evening of jazz was attended by over 60 people in spite of the fact that the Enterprise did not publish the press release. Jennifer Hull (Community Librarian) reports that they plan to extend the series with a final program on July 16 with *Bubba and the Blisters* on the roots of rock and roll.

The final meeting for the book discussion group featured Kim Antieau's book, *Coyote Cowgirl*. Kim and Mario Milosevic joined the discussion. Members of the group brought food made with the recipes from the book. Hint from Candy: If you have not read this title be sure to do so – it is a blast!

The White Salmon English Language conversation circles, funded by the Diversity Grant, will be starting soon. Heather Weisfield made presentations about the Conversation Circle plans to Rotary and the Soroptimists. Heather, Sarah Berkowitz and Jennifer held a public information meeting for potential volunteers. Twenty-four volunteers signed up to attend the volunteer training to be provided by Clark College on June 5 in the library gallery. Three of these are GD volunteers, the rest White Salmon.

## **Ridgefield**

The Ridgefield staff are each going out on a Clark County Bookmobile run to learn more about the service so they will understand more about the service be able to promote it with patrons who live in the areas served.

The celebration of the Ridgefield Community Center Association 20 year anniversary was a wonderful event. The room was filled with community members. The Ridgefield Friends prepared 800 hors d'ouvers for the event. I heard some attendees relating proud tales of the hard work that resulted in the opening of the center ten years ago. Others expressed satisfaction that they had chosen to move to such a community-minded place. Former Ridgefield Community Librarians Jackie Youngblood, Barbra Micheel, Tina Smith, as well as current Librarian Ann Margaret O'Reilly were all in attendance and recognized for the service the library provides along with active community participation by library staff. Several community members mentioned to me how pleased they were to see Sue Vanlaanen and her husband attending the event.

## **Final Note**

Thank you members of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library Board of Trustees, present and past, for the many, many hours of your time that you have given to be sure that the FVRL library service area continues to receive excellent library service even in these times of shrinking resources. Thank you for your support for our communities, especially those that take the initiative to build themselves a library or to vote to join FVRL. Thank you also for your support of library staff. I have provided training for the staffs of many libraries throughout the country over the years and, although those other libraries have very good staff, I have not found any of an overall quality to match the FVRL staff. I had the honor to attend the graduation of the Northwest Satellite of the Emporia University School of Library and Information Management on May 30<sup>th</sup>. I was proud to watch FVRL Employees Rachel Bridgewater, Kim Carroll, Kelly Griffin, and Lydia Junewick receive their Master's degrees. Rachel also was one of two students to receive an achievement award from the Beta Phi Mu, the International Library and Information Studies Honor Society. I can speak to the scholarship of each of these FVRL graduates since they were students in my Information Ethics class. The library can be proud to have attracted such high caliber employees who have chosen the career of librarianship. In the future I hope that the Library Foundation would find a way to establish a fund to offer scholarships for library education to FVRL employees. The best way to ensure the highest quality librarians for the future is to grow your own. As I continue to teach library students I will endeavor to send more your way.

## SOME HIGHLIGHTS OF GOLDENDALE LIBRARY HISTORY

### **The Connection: the Woman's Association and the Library**

By Teddy Cole, former Goldendale Community Librarian

When the women of Goldendale organized June 10<sup>th</sup> 1912, it was "for the uplift of Goldendale." Today we say "Thank You" for their contributions in so many ways to that end.

To us, as Friends of the Goldendale library, the most important project was the first: to establish a library. They didn't waste any time about doing that!

The school superintendent offered a room in the Grammar School where the books would be accessible to schoolchildren. The Woman's Association appointed a library committee of Dr. Louise Dorman, Mrs. E. R. Morgan and Mrs. R. J. Willis. The committee soon included representatives from other women's clubs as well. These women took charge of getting books from the State Library's circulating collection and organizing the books donated by residents. The room was open on Saturday afternoon from one to six o'clock, with two women in charge.

But they didn't stop there; they wanted a library building! They wrote to the Carnegie Foundation—at that time funding the building of libraries in cities and towns all over the United States—to find out what they had to do to secure a grant.

That same year, on October 12<sup>th</sup>, they approached the city council, and were awarded an annual allowance of \$1,000 for the maintenance of a new building. The mayor appointed a five-member Board of Library Trustees, consisting of C. T. Camplan, of the State Bank of Goldendale, Mr. E. O. Spoon, and the three women of the library committee.

In March 1913, Mrs. Morgan and Mrs. Willis went to Portland commissioned to find an architect to design the building. They chose well—the firm of Doyle and Patterson gave us the lovely building that is still the centerpiece of our library. In the meantime, the board was looking for a building lot and they developed a campaign for soliciting contributions. On May 2<sup>nd</sup> 1913, they settled on the three lots owned by James and Amanda Stackhouse on the northeast corner of "B" and Grant Streets for \$800. In August of that year, the \$800 was paid in full.

We don't have a record of all the ways the women used to raise the \$800. Aside from canvassing for donations, I'd guess they had the usual dinners, concerts, socials, picnics, bake and rummage sales—but they also were inventive. They sponsored a special promotion of "Wheat Eats" at the Ledbetter-Wallace store during the annual horse fair, with the proceeds going to the library fund. They operated the Waters-Rothschild store for a day, all the day's profits going to the fund. They organized a baseball game between "The Fats and the Thins" in May and a game between the farmers—"Grangers"—and the businessmen, both games for the benefit

of the library. They bought a dozen gross of pencils for the fifth and sixth graders to sell at 5 cents a piece, with a prize for the class that sold the most.

July 30, 1914, they received word that their Carnegie grant was approved. Now the actual building could get underway.

With the city's support, the lots purchased, and the grant secured, the Woman's Association could turn their attention to other projects. However, the connection with the library remained strong. They retained their Library Committee, and kept three representatives on the City's Library Board of Trustees.

Even before the building began, when the lots were first purchased, the women bought and planted trees on the property.

When the building was completed and officially opened March 15, 1915, the Association began holding their meetings in a basement room they called "The Auditorium." But their help for the library didn't stop there.

In April, Mr. E. C. Trost presented the "distributing desk" (the original circulation desk). Rest rooms on the lower level were made available to people who came in from the outlying farms to shop on Saturdays, and the women furnished that area, even providing a cot where a child could take a nap.

Volunteers from the Association provided the first children's story times, held Saturday afternoons. Women signed up to do this and kept a record of the stories they read. We have the notes from those first few months to show their choices, and the number of children attending. Volunteers provided flowers for the library, and decorations for special holidays.

Of the twelve women who have served as librarians, eight were members of the Association, the best known being Lela Ramsey, for thirty-two years, and Jean Thompson, for twenty years.

The Woman's Association never stopped giving to the library—donations of books, contributions to the library's expansion fund, the contents of their kitchen when the clubhouse was sold and a generous share of their funds when they disbanded last year.

For their vision, their energy, their thoughtfulness, their generosity, we applaud them today. Thank you!

## **GOLDENDALE AND FORT VANCOUVER REGIONAL LIBRARY DISTRICT**

### ***Klickitat County becomes part of FVRL***

After a number of years of planning and one unsuccessful previous vote, the unincorporated portions of Klickitat County voted in November of 1972 to form a rural county library district. During the planning process, it was generally understood that Klickitat County did not have the resources to provide adequate library services alone. Merger with either the Yakima County or the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District was considered.

During the campaign for formation of a library district the voters were informed that, if the vote was positive, the Klickitat County Rural County Library District would become part of the Fort Vancouver Regional Library District. The decision to merge with Fort Vancouver Regional Library was based on a number of factors including the resources available from a larger geographic area and the sense that commerce tied Klickitat County more to the counties to the West.

On January 13, 1973, the Clark, Skamania and Klickitat County Commissioners signed an agreement to expand the FVRL Library District to include Klickitat County.

### ***The Goldendale Public Library becomes a branch of FVRL***

Jean Thompson, the Goldendale Librarian and Shirley Whiting, the White Salmon Librarian provided the leadership for the plan to form a Klickitat County Rural Library District that would become part of a larger Library District. Part of the plan was that FVRL would take over the city libraries in White Salmon and Goldendale. In 1973 both cities signed contracts with Fort Vancouver Regional Library for library services. In 1981 the voters of both cities voted to annex to the library district.

### ***The current library building***

In the early 1980's the local Goldendale Library Board started work on a plan to expand and remodel the Carnegie building. When in 1983 federal funds for library construction became available, the City and the Library District embarked upon a cooperative project to secure funding for the plan.

The City applied for and received a federal Library Services and Construction Act grant and provided resources for project management. The community raised over \$430,000 towards the required local matching funds for the federal grant. The City issued \$310,000 of twenty year FHA bonds to complete the local match requirements. The City accepted responsibility for paying off \$110,000 of the bond debt with the understanding that FVRL would make lease payments to the City to pay off the interest and principle for the remaining \$200,000. In addition to the commitment to pay off the bonds, FVRL assumed the cost of relocating the library during the construction and paid for some interior work that was not covered by the grant.

The cost sharing of the Goldendale expansion and remodeling project, after FVRL completes lease payments on the city issued bonds, will be:

Federal	30%
FVRL	31%
Local	39%

## WOODLAND BUILDING PROJECT

### Background

**1996:** Voters in the City of Woodland voted to annex to Fort Vancouver Regional Library District (FVRL).

**1997:** Woodland Public Library becomes a branch of FVRL. The building was built in 1909 and had been in use as a library since 1926.

**1997 – 1998:** Improvements made to both floors of the library using donations, grants and FVRL funds.

### *Woodland Building Project*

**2002:** Friends of the Library formed a building committee and begin fund raising for a new library building

June: Park Board held a public meeting about locating a new library in Hoffman Park

August: City Council agreed to making city owned land available for new library

December: FVRL Library Board agreed to provide staff assistance for the capital development of a new library and to operate a branch in a new building.

**2003:** FVRL and City of Woodland approved a new interlocal agreement for the continued operation of the library in the city owned building. Included in the agreement:

### SECTION 5. FUTURE LIBRARY BUILDING

- 5.1 The City and FVRL agree to support the efforts of the Friends of the Library to plan and fund raise for a larger Woodland Community Library.
- 5.2 It is the intention of the City and FVRL that the City will continue to own the new library and FVRL will continue to operate the library.

### **May 2004:**

- FVRL and the City learn that Margaret Rose McQuarrie has left a bequest of at least \$50,000 to the Woodland Friends for the building project.
- City of Woodland applies for a combination grant and loan of \$1 million from the Cowlitz County Rural County Public Facility Fund. If awarded funds the City will manage the building project in partnership with FVRL and will pay off the loan portion of the award.
- Friends of the Woodland Community Library pledge \$10,000 from their investment funds for the building project.
- The Friends, supported by the Foundation have pledged to continue their fundraising.

### **Advantages to FVRL of a new Woodland Community Library**

The current building is:

- too small to accommodate the continuous growth in use since becoming a branch of FVRL (circulation, visits, programs, etc.)
- not ADA compliant
- not staff efficient – it is a two-story building with a steep stairway and no elevator. Staff must transport materials between floors entirely by hand.
- more expensive to maintain and operate than a new building would be.

**Date:** June 14, 2004  
**To:** Fort Vancouver Regional Library Board of Trustees  
**From:** Patty Duitman  
**Subject:** Support Services Report

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## **FACILITIES**

Goldendale: The exterior painting was completed and the roof repairs are scheduled to start the week of June 14.

Stevenson: Helped finish off the planting on the grounds. The Stevenson grounds are patterned after the forest floor. This is a different landscape approach. Thanks to the friends in Stevenson we are able to maintain the landscaping. The Skamania County inmates continue to assist with grounds maintenance.

White Salmon: The friends and members of the community completed the landscaping of the area south of the library. We will be installing storm gutters on the building. This area has been a problem both because of run-off from the roof and the every present weeds. We now have a beautiful area that we do not want ruined because of a lack of gutters.

Woodland: Worked with Rob VanderZanden on a grant proposal submitted by the City of Woodland to fund the building of a new library building in Woodland.

Business Office: Moved Doreen and Vickie from upstairs to downstairs as part of the reorganization.

## **INFORMATION TECHNOLOGY**

### SAM Pay for Print:

Pay for print has been implemented in almost all of the branches. Several of the branches (GD, LC, ST and WD) are having problems with the Automated Payment Machine. These are being sent back to New Jersey for repair. It is anticipated that the repairs will take about a week. While the machines are out of the branch, we will offer 25 free copies to patrons. Any amount over 25 will still be charged at 10¢ a copy and the money will be received at the circulation counter.

#### Staff CIPA:

Staff has been testing the block list. The initial list over blocked sites. We are currently testing another block list. We will definitely be deploying the staff filter by the end of June. The library's Electronic Communication Guidelines have been updated to address filtering of staff computers as required by CIPA.

#### Children's Internet (Brain Stations):

Comprise, Inc., the software company who is making changes to the SAM filter software in order for us to have "one-click" access on the children internet stations. This would mean that children would not be able to go out onto the web past one link away from the initial children's site.

#### Separate Internet Terminals:

We are waiting for the revisions to the SAM client that will enable us to have some internet terminals at Vancouver, Vancouver Mall and Three Creeks to be available to only patrons 17 and older. We anticipate that we will have all three branches done by mid July, provided the electricians can get to Three Creeks.

#### Telecommunications:

We are switching our internet connections in Skamania and Klickitat counties from Sprint to SawNet. This will allow us to save approximately \$3,000 per month.

### **ADMINISTRATIVE SERVICES**

#### Volunteer Services

The HR department was very fortunate to be able to have the services of intern, Elaine Spencer. Elaine has just completed her MLS through Emporia. Elaine created a power point presentation for Volunteer Orientation, using FVRL's volunteer program. Elaine worked closely with Sherry Braga in developing the presentation that Elaine used for a school project. The presentation belongs to the Library and Elaine left it to be further developed. Sherry has added her creativity and is about to roll out the "final product". This piece is just one more way of making our volunteer program a class act.

49 teen library volunteers received the Clark County Youth Achievement Awards on June 6th. Mayor Royce Pollard and Commissioner Craig Pridemore were presenters.

**Vancouver Community Library**  
**Board Report**  
**May/June 2004**  
**Doreen Turpen**

**Transition:** Tom Taylor was appointed as the interim Vancouver Community Librarian, effective June 4, and will serve in that capacity until the Vancouver Community Librarian position is filled. At the time a new community librarian is in place, Tom will shift to his new position as Reference Coordinator in the newly formed District Programs division.

**Programs:**

May was a busy month with a variety of programs and summer reading promotions. Vancouver's conversation circles drew 50 attendees during the month. The circles are held weekly. Program offerings included the ongoing poetry workshop, open-mic, Teen 'scape, story times, chess club, and Yu-Gi-Oh. We continue to offer Internet classes and instruction on use of the Non-Profit Resource Center. Vancouver hosted author Marv Thomas, a teen cooking competition, and a forum inquiring how Clark County can benefit from its history.

While keeping the full level of programming, the Youth Services department is also undertaking an extensive promotion for the summer reading program. They are hosting class visits at the library and speaking to small and large groups of children at schools.

**Services:**

The Diversity grant project is proceeding well. The initial conversation circles are continuing. Two advanced training sessions were conducted by Jackie Allen-Bond from Clark College Literacy Program. Thirteen volunteers attended the sessions. Initial training occurred in White Salmon and the first circles were held on June 10. Two innovative programs are scheduled in Vancouver in late June. These will be a program on basic auto care and a preventive medicine program with an information fair. These two programs will be presented in Spanish.

Internet stations will be relocated during the week of June 21. Moving the Internet terminals will get them out of the aisles and into a more separate area. The new Internet area presently houses seating and the current magazine display. We will lose over one-half of the magazine display shelving in this move. A smaller display area will be set up near the audio-visual shelving. Shelving that was used for the pamphlet file will be used for media. The pamphlet file is being reduced to just a few shelves.

At the time of the Internet move, we will receive new shelving for the large type books. This shelving will be installed where the Internet now resides. With this change the large type books will be closer to the front entrance, which will be a benefit to our older users and to those with disabilities. We will also gain shelving capacity that is badly needed for this collection. The current large print shelves will be moved to provide more shelving for oversize books and shelving in the youth services department for juvenile videos.