Board Reports
### 2013 BOARD CALENDAR OF WORK

**October 3, 2013**

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| July 10 (cont.) | • Staff Web Board Page Introduction  
• Ratification of Labor Agreement |                                                              |
| August 14  | • 2014 Budget: Budget Calendar and Process  
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• PAC HVAC  
• Board Vision of Library Future  
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• STEM Grants (Paul Allen and Lucky 7)  
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| September 11 | • 2014 Budget: Estimated Revenue and Expenditures  
• Intellectual Freedom Policies  
• Holiday Policy  
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• Library Card Campaign |
| October 16 | • Review of Regular 2014 Draft Revenue and Expenditure  
• *2014 pre certification of Property Tax Levy  
• *IPD for 2013 Property Tax Levy  
• *Review of 2014 Draft Revenue and Expenditures  
• 2014 – 2018 Cash Flow  
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• Set 2014 Board Meeting Schedule  
• Director Evaluation: Review Procedures  
• Affordable Care Act |
| November 13 | • First Public Hearing Regarding 2014 Budget  
• Review of Draft 2014 Budget and Capital Improvement Plan  
• Review And Approval To Certify Property Taxes To Be Levied For Collection in 2014  
• Review Of Regular 2014 Capital Improvement Budget And 2014 Capital Improvement Plan  
• Branch Service Plans  
• Board Discussion Of Essential Competencies Needed For Executive Position  
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| December 11 | • Second Public Hearing Regarding 2014 Budget  
• Resolution to transfer a portion of the fund balance of the general fund to the capital improvement fund  
• Resolution to Adopt 2014 Budget  
• Resolution to Adopt 2014 Capital Improvement Fund Budget  
• Motion to certify property taxes to be levied for collection in 2014 (if needed)  
• Resolution to set 2014 wages for non-represented staff  
• 2014 Election of Officers  
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• Community Profiles  
• Internet Policy | • Monthly Dashboard  
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• Resolution: Cancellation of unredeemed warrants  
• Pierce County Library Foundation Annual Report  
• 2014 Insurance Renewal  
• New ILL Module |
Library Activities

- Pierce County Library System earns national budget award
- Pierce County Library Foundation receives $175,000 grant
- Art after school helps children learn at Orting Pierce County Library
- Calendar info posted on Pierce Prairie Post
- Free classes available at Pierce County libraries
- Prepare for life after high school at Pierce County Library System
- College prep for students and parents at Pierce County Library System
- Community invited to free events for all ages at Tillicum Pierce County Library
- Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at Lakewood library
- County libraries offer beginner computer classes
- Shop for Bargain Books and More to Support Pierce County Library System This Fall
- Children build imagination at Pierce County Library System
- Stress Relief Meditation Workshops
- Meet best-selling author J.A. Jance at University Place Pierce County Library
- Meet best-selling author J.A. Jance at University Place Library
- Meet author J.A. Jance at UP Library
- JA Jance Author Event
- Deborah Rodriguez Author Event
- Meet noted author Deborah Rodriguez at U.P. library
- Hear Firsthand Account of WWII Internment at Sumner Library
- Children Build Skills by Reading with Dogs at Pierce County Library System
- Therapy dos help kids in Puyallup learn to read
- You are what you eat, What’s in your food? Come and find out on Sept. 14th
- Earthquakes: living with a shifting earth at Pierce County Library System
- The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation funds science program at Library
- Book Discussion Groups
- Calendar clips from ParentMap magazine
- Library Reading Groups, SAT Practice Test, Block Play
Pierce County Library System earns national budget award

The Suburban Times

Georgia Lomax | September 17, 2013 | 0 Comments

The Government Finance Officers Association presented Pierce County Library System with the Distinguished Budget Presentation Award. The prestigious and highly coveted award goes to state and local government organizations that prepare budget documents of the very highest quality. 2013 marks the second year that the Library has received this award.

"The award continues to make a wonderful acknowledgement of the Library's leadership and dedication to being good stewards of taxpayers' investments that pay the Library to serve communities," said Neel Parikh, executive director of the Library. "It also shows a strong recognition of the sound financial practices and planning of the Library's managers, Finance & Business Director Clifford Jo and Board of Trustees."

The Government Finance Officers Association (GFOA) looks at a variety of criteria to determine the merits of local governments' budgets including the overall structure of the budget document, descriptions and accounting for how an organization plans to spend its money, as well as recordings of how an organization spent its money.

Pierce County Library earned the highest rating of “outstanding” for its 2013 budget in many categories including strategic goals and strategies, descriptions of funding plans, capital expenditures, and goal setting.

The Government Finance Officers Association enhances and promotes the professional management of governments for public benefit, serving the United States and Canada.

Pierce County Library is the fourth largest library system in Washington state, serving 555,000 people in all of unincorporated Pierce County and 15 cities and towns. Its 2013 operating budget is $25,423,927.
Pierce County Library Foundation receives $175,000 grant
The News Tribune
Published: September 9, 2013
0 Comments E-mail Print

The News Tribune

The Pierce County Library Foundation has received a Paul G. Allen Family Foundation/Faye G. Allen Library Program grant for $175,000.

The grant will be used to launch the Science to Go program at Pierce County Library System next year. The program will build science and learning skills for children in kindergarten through third grade.

The two-year grant funds a temporary librarian who will coordinate the program and provide 2,000 new science-related non-fiction books, 550 backpacks, science kits and an outreach program to schools in the Bethel, Franklin Pierce and White River school districts.

Compiled by Debbie Cafazzo and Mary Anderson, staff writers

Read more here: http://www.thenewstribune.com/2013/09/09/2774411/pierce-county-library-group-receives.html#storylink=cpy
Art after school helps children learn at Orting Pierce County Library

Orting News

September 11, 2013

Children ages 6 and up will grow imagination and develop creative skills during free art events at Orting Pierce County Library, 202 Washington Ave. S.

Young artists will make a craft to take home, when Art after School meets on the following Thursdays, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m.

- Sept. 26
- Oct. 24
- Dec. 12

No registration required. Friends of the Orting Library sponsor these free events.
Libraries

September 9, 2013
by PiercePrairiePost Leave a comment

Computer Classes: Sept. 9-13
Make online travel plans, navigate the Internet, download free e-books to your e-reader, get started in PowerPoint and practice basic computer skills.
Register online @ http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/calendar.htm

Discuss a Book: Sept. 9-14
You are invited to join the discussion at four book groups this week!
Locations, dates and times @ http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/calendar.htm

Rockin' Pete the Cat Party: Sept. 10-11
Rock your best school shoes, don your grooviest buttons and join us for a Rockin' Pete the Cat Party!
DuPont Pierce County Library, 1540 Wilmington Drive, Wednesday, Sept. 11, 3:30 p.m.
Parkland/Spanaway Pierce County Library, 13718 Pacific Ave. S., Tuesday, Sept. 10, 1 – 5:30 p.m.
University Place Pierce County Library, 3609 Market Place W., Wednesday, Sept. 11, 10:30 a.m.

Board of Trustees Meeting: Sept. 11
At its September meeting Pierce County Library System’s Board of Trustees will discuss Lakewood Library’s 50th anniversary, the 2014 budget, landscaping at Steliaacom Library, and other issues. The Board of Trustees will meet at the Library’s Processing and Administrative Center, 3005 112th St. E., in Tacoma, on Wednesday, Sept. 11, from 3:30 to 6 p.m. The meetings are open to the public.

Meet Best-selling Author J.A. Jance: Sept. 12
New York Times best-selling author J.A. Jance will speak and sign books. You may buy or check out books at the event. Visit University Place Library for a FREE ticket.
University Place Pierce County Library, 3609 Market Place W., Thursday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.

A Key Peninsula Experience: Sept. 12
Journalist/photographer David Montesino will share a newcomer’s view of the Key Peninsula.
Key Center Pierce County Library, 8905 KPN, Lakebay, Thursday, Sept. 12, 7 p.m.

Used Book Sales: Sept. 13-15
Find great prices on used books, CDs, DVDs and more at four sales! Help the Friends of the Libraries sponsor programs for kids and adults as well as furnishings and other needs at the libraries.
Locations, dates and times @ http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/calendar.htm

Bonney Lake’s Plateau: Sept. 14
Bonney Lake Pierce County Library, 18501 90th St. E., Saturday, Sept. 14, 2 p.m.

Meditation – Lose Your Stress, Find Your Bliss: Sept. 14 and 18
Discover how meditation can reduce stress-related responses, improve concentration and enhance clarity of thought with expert Ajili Hodari.
Lakewood Pierce County Library, 6300 Wildaire Road S.W., Saturday, Sept. 14, 1 p.m.
University Place Pierce County Library, 3609 Market Place W., Wednesday, Sept. 18, 7 p.m.

Life After High School: Sept. 14-Jan. 25
Admission requirements, college application writing, FAFSA, SAT tips/practice tests and more for teens and parents.
Locations, dates and times @ http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/calendar.htm

Learn more about free events on the calendar @ http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/calendar.htm
Free classes available at Pierce County libraries

Free classes at local branches of the Pierce County Library System will teach computer basics and Microsoft Office essentials during the months of September and October.

Get started using an iPad, downloading to an e-reader, navigating the Internet and discovering the free resources available with a Pierce County Library card.

Registration for classes can be completed at a Pierce County library in your area or sign up online at www.piercecountylibrary.org/calendar.htm.

The Bonney Lake Pierce County library is located at 18501 90th St. E. and can be reached at 253-548-3308. All classes are 90 minutes and will begin at 2 p.m.

- Computers for Beginners, Sept. 10
- Word 2010 for Beginners, Sept. 24
- Excel 2010 for Beginners, Oct. 8
- Assess Your Collectibles, Oct. 15
- Navigating the Net, Oct. 22

The Buckley Pierce County library is located at 123 S. River Ave. and can be reached at 253-548-3310 or 360-829-0300. All classes are 90 minutes and will begin at 11 a.m.

- Navigating the Net, Sept. 12
- Computers for Beginners, Sept. 19
- Excel 2010 for Beginners, Sept. 26
- Word 2010 for Beginners, Oct. 10
- Assess Your Collectibles, Oct. 17
- Computers for Beginners, Oct. 24

The Sumner Pierce County library is located at 1116 Fryar Ave. and can be reached at 253-548-3306.

- E-Books and E-Readers, Sept. 10, 5 to 6:15 p.m.
- Excel 2010 for Beginners, Sept. 24, 4:30 to 6 p.m.
- Word 2010 for Beginners, Oct. 8, 5 to 6 p.m.
- E-Books and E-Readers, Oct. 15, 5 to 6:15 p.m.
- Navigating the Net, Oct. 29, 5 to 6 p.m.
Prepare for life after high school at Pierce County Library System

The Suburban Times The Suburban Times | September 12, 2013 | 0 Comments

Strategies, practice tests and writing tips will help students and their parents become better prepared for college during free workshops at five Pierce County Libraries.

Eatonville Pierce County Library, 205 Center St. W.
Saturday, Sept. 21, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. SAT Practice Test
Saturday, Sept. 28, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Test Stress/SAT Test Results

Gig Harbor Pierce County Library, 4424 Point Fosdick Drive N.W.
Saturday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. SAT Practice Test

Graham Pierce County Library, 9202 224th St. E.
Saturday, Oct. 12, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. SAT Practice Test
Saturday, Oct. 26, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. Test Stress/SAT Test Results

Parkland/Spanaway Pierce County Library, 13718 Pacific Ave. S., Tacoma
Saturday, Sept. 14, 1 – 5 p.m. SAT Practice Test
Tuesday, Sept. 17, 7 – 9 p.m. Test Stress/SAT Test Results
Saturday, Sept. 28, 2:30 – 4 p.m. Acing the SAT
Saturday, Oct. 19, 2:30 – 4 p.m. What Does it Take
Wednesday, Nov. 13, 7 – 8:30 p.m. College Application Writing
Saturday, Jan. 25, 10 a.m. – 12 p.m. FAFSA

South Hill Pierce County Library, 15420 Meridian E.
Saturday, Sept. 14, 10 a.m. – 2 p.m. SAT Practice Test
Tuesday, Sept. 17, 6 – 8 p.m. Test Stress/SAT Test Results
Thursday, Oct. 10, 6 – 7:30 p.m. Acing the SAT
Thursday, Oct. 24, 6 – 7:30 p.m. What Does it Take
Thursday, Nov. 14, 6 – 7:30 p.m. College Application Writing

Acing the SAT
Gain a basic understanding of the SAT test and simple strategies that will make the test less intimidating.

College Application Writing
Students will learn what college admissions officers want to see in an essay.

FAFSA
Navigate the financial aid process for FAFSA—Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

SAT Practice Test
Take a free, full length practice SAT to get ready for the real test. Registration required. Register online at www.piercecountylibrary.org/calendar.htm

Test Stress – For Parents and Students
Learn about college admissions and the differences between the ACT and the SAT. Pick up tips for test preparation and overcoming test anxiety.

What Does It Take? For Parents and Students
Understand admissions requirements for Washington State colleges and universities.
College prep for students and parents at Pierce County Library System

The Suburban Times

Georgia Lomax | September 29, 2013 | 0 Comments

Strategies, practice tests and writing tips will help students and their parents become better prepared for college during free workshops at four Pierce County Libraries.

Bonney Lake Pierce County Library, 18501 90th St. E.
Saturday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. SAT Practice Test*
Saturday, Oct. 26, 11 a.m. Acing the SAT
Saturday, Jan. 25, 11 a.m. FAFSA
Saturday, March 1, 11 a.m. What Does it Take?

Milton/Edgewood Pierce County Library, 900 Meridian E., Suite 29, Milton
Saturday, Oct. 5, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. SAT Practice Test
Tuesday, Oct. 15, 6:30 p.m. Acing the SAT
Tuesday, Jan. 28, 6:30 p.m. FAFSA
Saturday, Feb. 15, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. SAT Practice Test*
Tuesday, Feb. 25, 6:30 p.m. Acing the SAT

Sumner Pierce County Library, 1116 Fryar Ave.
Saturday, Oct. 12, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. SAT Practice Test*
Tuesday, Oct. 22, 7 p.m. Acing the SAT
Monday, Jan. 27, 7 p.m. FAFSA
Saturday, Feb. 8, 9 a.m. – 1 p.m. SAT Practice Test*
Tuesday, Feb. 18, 7 p.m. Acing the SAT

University Place Pierce County Library, 3609 Market Place W., Suite 100
Saturday, Dec. 14, 1 p.m. FAFSA

Acing the SAT
Gain a basic understanding of the SAT test and simple strategies that will make the test less intimidating.

College Application Writing
Students will learn what college admissions officers want to see in an essay.

FAFSA
Navigate the financial aid process for FAFSA—Free Application for Federal Student Aid.

*SAT Practice Test
Take a free, full length practice SAT to get ready for the real test. Registration required. Register online @ www.piercecountylibrary.org/calendar

What Does It Take? For Parents and Students
Understand admissions requirements for Washington State colleges and universities.
Community invited to free events for all ages at Tillicum Pierce County Library

The Suburban Times
Georgia Lomax | September 25, 2013 | 0 Comments

Members of the community are invited to participate in free events for all ages at Tillicum Pierce County Library, 14916 Washington Ave. S.W., Lakewood, in October.

Reusing the Unused. Saturday, Oct. 12, 2 p.m.
A Master Gardener will demonstrate techniques and advantages of composting throughout the year.

Family Movie Matinee. Saturday, Oct. 19, 1 p.m.
Join the local community and enjoy a free, newly released family movie, plus free popcorn and free drinks. Early arrivals may enter a drawing for free door prizes.
Door prizes compliments of Tillicum/American Lake Gardens Community Center.

Scary Stories around the Campfire. Saturday, Oct. 26, 2 p.m.
Sit by a look-alike indoor campfire while enjoying not-too-scary stories appropriate for families, told by Fireside Story League. A fun craft and Halloween treats will follow. Feel free to wear a Halloween costume and bring a favorite blanket or pillow to cuddle up to!

Beginning Computer Classes. Wednesdays, Oct. 9 and 23, 10:30 a.m.
Please contact library staff to sign up for free beginning computer classes.

Celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month at Lakewood Library

The Suburban Times
Georgia Lomax | September 25, 2013 | 0 Comments

Members of the community are invited to celebrate Hispanic Heritage Month with music, dance and refreshments, during free events at Lakewood Pierce County Library, 6300 Wilkshire Road S.W., from Saturday, Sept. 28 to Wednesday, Oct. 9.

Mexican Folk Dancers: Joyas Mestizas – Saturday, Sept. 28, 2 p.m.
Share the rich Mexican culture through traditional dance, music and regional costuming.

Aztec Dancers: Danza Azteca Ce Atl Tonalli – Saturday, Oct. 5, 2 p.m.
Traditional Aztec dance rituals tell the story of Mexican teachings and culture.

Mapping Latino Musical Migrations – Wednesday, Oct. 9, 6:30 p.m.
Play musical instruments and learn how Latinos have contributed to popular music in the U.S. with musician/educator Antonio Davidson Gomez.

El Mercado Latino, Starbucks, Humanities Washington and FRIENDS of Lakewood Library sponsor these free events.

Each year, Americans observe National Hispanic Heritage Month from Sept. 15 to Oct. 15, by celebrating the histories, cultures and contributions of American citizens whose ancestors came from Spain, Mexico, the Caribbean and Central and South America.
GET OUT
THINGS TO DO TODAY & THE REST OF THE WEEK

TUESDAY

Enjoy roses? Check out the Puyallup Rose Society at its monthly meeting
If you are rose lover and want to join others who share your passion, check out the Puyallup Rose Society. The group meets the first Tuesday of every month to share ideas, answer questions and enjoy the rose. The meeting is at 7 p.m. at the Puyallup Activity Center, 210 W. Pioneer Ave., Puyallup.

County libraries offer beginner computer classes
If you're new to working with computers or consider yourself a beginner, then you'll want to try the free computer classes offered by Pierce County Libraries. Call your local branch for registration requirements.

Join fellow rose lovers at the monthly meeting of the Puyallup Rose Society.

Heavy metal concert set for Le Voyer Café in downtown Olympia
Heavy metal lovers should make plans to head down to Le Voyer Café and Lounge, 404 Fourth Ave. E. in Olympia for a free all-ages show starting at 6 p.m. It will feature Redem the Exile, Endosures, Thistopia and For the Likes of You. For more information, call 360-861-6444.

Peninsula Art League juried show on display in Gig Harbor
Discover the talents of local artists at the annual juried Art Exhibit of the Peninsula Art League at the Harbor History Museum, 4121 Harborview Drive, Gig Harbor.

The Peninsula Art League's membership includes artists who work as painters, sculptors, photographers, potters, jewelry designers, calligraphers, glass and fiber artists and writers. Museum hours are 10 a.m.-5 p.m. Tuesdays-Sundays. Admission is $5-$7.

Staff file, 2007

KIM EIBEL/The Gateway
Shop for Bargain Books and More to Support Pierce County Library System This Fall
Bonney Lake Sumner Patch

People will help support library services as they find great bargains on used books and other materials during upcoming sales. Friends of the Libraries will host the events at five Pierce County Libraries from September to November.

Posted by April Chan (Editor), September 12, 2013 at 10:08 PM

TACOMA – People will help support library services as they find great bargains on used books and other materials during upcoming sales. Friends of the Libraries will host the events at five Pierce County Libraries from September to November.

Bonney Lake Pierce County Library, 18501 90th St. E., Thursday, Nov. 21, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Friday, Nov. 22, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Saturday, Nov. 23, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Bag sale on Sunday, Nov. 24, 1 – 4 p.m. $2 per bag.

Graham Pierce County Library, 9202 224th St. E., Suite 100, Saturday, Oct. 19, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Bag sale at 3 p.m.

Milton/Edgewood Pierce County Library, Surprise Lake Square, 900 Meridian E., Suite 29, Milton, Saturday, Sept. 28, 11 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Parkland/Spanaway Pierce County Library, 13718 Pacific Ave. S., Friday, Oct. 5, 10 a.m. – 5 p.m.; Saturday, Oct. 6, 10 a.m. – 4 p.m. Bag sale on Saturday, Oct. 6, 2 – 4 p.m.

Sumner Pierce County Library, 1116 Fryar Ave., Saturday, Oct. 19, 10 a.m. – 4:30 p.m., Sunday, Oct. 20, 1 – 3 p.m.

Sales will offer a great variety of materials for all ages and interests, including hardback and paperback fiction and nonfiction, children’s books, cookbooks, reference books, audiobooks, music and movies.

Residents donated used books, CDs and DVDs for the sale. Funds from the book sales will help the Friends sponsor events for children and adults as well as furnishings and other needs at the libraries.
Children build imagination at Pierce County Library System

The Suburban Times | September 9, 2013 | 0 Comments

Creative construction activities will help children develop imagination and skills during free events at five Pierce County Libraries, from September to December.

Young builders will use the library's Legos, straws and connectors, blocks and more to construct fabulous contraptions. They may build to match the theme of the day, or make their own creations. Duplos and other blocks will be available for the little ones.

DuPont Pierce County Library, 1540 Wilmington Drive
Tuesday, Oct. 22, 1 – 3 p.m.

Gig Harbor Pierce County Library, 4424 Point Fosdick Drive N.W.
Saturdays, Sept. 21, Oct. 19, Nov. 16, 10 – 11:30 a.m.

Orting Pierce County Library, 202 Washington Ave. S.
Thursdays, Sept. 12, Oct. 10, Nov. 7, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Parkland/Spanaway Pierce County Library, 13718 Pacific Ave. S.
Tuesdays, Oct. 8, Nov. 12, Dec. 10, 3:30 – 5 p.m.

South Hill Pierce County Library, 15420 Meridian E.
Wednesdays, Sept. 25, Oct. 23, Nov. 13, Dec. 11, drop in 4 – 6 p.m.
Stress. We all have it, probably too much of it. Learning how to reduce the negative effects of stress can make a difference in your mental and physical health. There will be two free mediation workshops, to help people learn how to relieve stress, at two Pierce County Library locations in September. At these workshops, meditation expert, Ajili Hodari, will share how meditation can reduce stress-related responses, improve concentration, and enhance clarity of thought. Ajili will teach a meditation technique that can enrich a person’s life personally, professionally, and spiritually.

Georgia Lomax, Deputy Director for the Pierce County Library System, stated that the library is excited to welcome meditation expert Ajili Hodari to the Lakewood and University Place Libraries. “It’s great to offer our customers a chance to learn about various techniques and benefits of meditation, at no cost.”

“Many consider meditation to be a useful tool to help reduce and relieve unhealthy stress, and find relaxation. The free admission and convenient location of the libraries make it easy to participate, and are perfect for any adult who would like to learn more about meditation, relaxation, and its benefits.”

These classes are free to participants, and are intended for an adult audience only. The classes will last roughly an hour.

Dates, times and locations:
Saturday, September 14, 1 pm, at the Lakewood Pierce County Library: 6300 Wildaire Road S.W., Lakewood, WA.
Wednesday, September 18, 7 pm, at the University Place Library: 3609 Market Place W., Suite 100, University Place, WA.
Flyer available for download

For more information about the event, please visit: www.piercecountylibrary.org

By: Carly Calabrese, staff for Tacoma.com
Edited by Reba Winstead, editor for Tacoma.com
Meet best-selling author J.A. Jance at University Place Pierce County Library
September 4, 2013 By News Room

J.A. Jance

On Thursday, Sept. 12, at 7 p.m., meet New York Times best-selling author J.A. Jance at University Place Pierce County Library, 3609 Market Place W. Jance will talk and sign books in the atrium of the University Place Civic and Library Building.

“Pierce County Library System is delighted to host a book signing and talk with Ms. Jance,” said Neel Parikh, executive director for Pierce County Library. “Community members have asked the Library System to offer author talks and book signings at the new library. Since opening in our new location two years ago, University Place Library has hosted more than 30 authors.”

To attend the free event: visit University Place Library for a free ticket. Limit two per person, while supplies last. Friends of the University Place Library are sponsoring this free event.

Jance’s newest book in the J.P. Beaumont series—“Second Watch”—is scheduled to be released Sept. 10, and will be available for purchase at the event. The 21st book in the series that features Beaumont, “Second Watch” introduces a new character: Lennie Davis, J.P. Beaumont’s commanding officer in Vietnam. Jance wrote the book as a literary thank you note to the people who served in that era, and to their loved ones.

Readers may find Jance’s books at University Place Library and throughout Pierce County Library System.


She was born in South Dakota and brought up in Bisbee, Ariz. Jance lives in Seattle, Wash. and Tucson, Ariz.
Meet Best-Selling Author J.A. Jance at University Place Library

UP Patch

Meet best-selling author J.A. Jance at a special book signing at the University Place Library on Thursday, Sept. 12, 2013.

Posted by Lauren Padgett (Editor), September 08, 2013 at 04:41 PM

J.A. Jance at a book signing event in California. (Credit: Patch)

From the Pierce County Library:

Meet New York Times best-selling author J.A. Jance at University Place Pierce County Library, 3609 Market Place W on Thursday, Sept. 12 at 7 p.m.

Popular Stories

Jance will talk and sign books in the atrium of the University Place Civic and Library Building.

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She was born in South Dakota and brought up in Bisbee, Ariz. Jance lives in Seattle, Wash. and Tucson, Ariz.
SHAKESPEARE ABRIDGED
AT TACOMA LITTLE THEATRE

Tacoma Little Theatre brings back its side-splitting spring production of "The Complete Works of William Shakespeare Abridged (Revised)." With three actors zipping through 37 plays and a sonnet or two, it's a madcap way to have a laugh at all your Bard favorites (and the ones you really should know but no one ever seems to perform). Showtimes are 7:30 p.m. Fridays and Saturdays, 2 p.m. Sundays through Sept. 22. Tickets are $10. The theater is at 210 N. 1st St., Tacoma. 253-272-2281, tacomalittletheatre.com

FILM FORWARD FESTIVAL

The Sundance-sponsored festival "Film Forward: Advancing Cultural Dialogue" continues with "The Loving Story" at 6 p.m. Friday at Jason Lee Middle School, 602 N. Sprague Ave., Tacoma, and "Beasts of the Southern Wild" at 2 p.m. Saturday at the Tacoma Public Library, 1102 Tacoma Ave. S. Both are free, with post-film discussions. cityoftacoma.org/arts

TACOMA COMMUNITY COLLEGE
HOSTS JURIED ART EXHIBIT

The 11th annual juried local art exhibit opens this week at The Gallery at Tacoma Community College, with 41 local artists showing work in a variety of mediums. Hours are noon-5 p.m. Mondays-Fridays, Sept. 9-Oct. 18; the opening reception is 4-7 p.m. Sept. 19. Admission is free. The Gallery is in building 4 at TCC, 6501 S. 19th St, Tacoma. tacomaacc.edu/campuslife/thegallery

MEET AUTHOR J.A. JANCE AT THE UP LIBRARY

Author J.A. Jance will appear at 7 p.m. Thursday at a book signing and talk at the University Place library. The Seattle-based author of police thrillers will sign her newest release, "Second Watch," the 21st book in the J.P. Beaumont series, at the University Place Pierce County Library, 3609 Market Place W. Admission is free. 253-548-3300, piercecountylibrary.org

Rosemary Ponnekanti: 253-597-8568
rosemary.ponnekanti@thenewstribune.com
JA Jance Author Event

King’s Books
Start: 09/12/2013 7:00 pm

Author JA Jance will talk about her new book, *Second Watch*, the latest in the JP Beaumont series. Visit the University Place Library for a FREE ticket. Limit two per person while supplies last. Event is sponsored by Friends of the University Place Library.


Location:
University Place Library
3609 Market Place W
University Place, Washington 98466
United States

Deborah Rodriguez Author Event

King’s Books
Start: 09/19/2013 7:00 pm

Meet author and hairdresser Deborah Rodriguez as she talks about her memoir, *Kabul Beauty School*, and her novel, *The Little Coffee Shop of Kabul*. Rodriguez went to Afghanistan in 2001 after the fall of the Taliban with a group offering humanitarian aid. She became involved in the setup of a beauty school training program to certify Afghan women to work in and set up their own beauty parlors. She wrote about her experiences in *Kabul Beauty School*. Her first novel, *The Little Coffee Shop of Kabul*, is the story of a coffee shop and the women who meet there, each with a story and a secret. Visit the University Place Library for a FREE ticket. Limit two per person while supplies last.

Location:
University Place Library
3609 Market Place W
University Place, Washington 98466 United States
Meet noted author Deborah Rodriguez at U.P. library

The Suburban Times | September 15, 2013 | 0 Comments

Thursday, Sept. 19, at 7 p.m., meet best-selling author Deborah Rodriguez at University Place Pierce County Library, 3609 Market Place W.

To attend the free event: visit University Place Library for a free ticket. Limit two per person, while supplies last. Friends of the University Place Library sponsor this free event.


Readers may find books, e-books and audiobooks by Rodriguez at University Place Library and throughout Pierce County Library System.

Rodriguez currently owns and operates a spa in Mexico and is working on a new book, an intimate account of her journey to remake her life after being forced to leave Afghanistan.
Hear Firsthand Account of WWII Internment at Sumner Library
BLK-Sumner Patch

Ben Kodama, an active member of the Sumner community and member of the Rotary Club of Sumner, will share his family's experiences during World War II during a free event Sept. 20.

Posted by April Chan (Editor), September 05, 2013 at 02:07 PM

Information from the Pierce County Library System

TACOMA – History will come alive when people listen to a firsthand account of World War II internment experiences during a free event at Sumner Pierce County Library, 1116 Fryar Ave., Friday, Sept. 20, at 6 p.m.

The Friends of the Sumner Library sponsor this free event.

Ben Kodama will share his family's experiences during World War II and the internment of Japanese-Americans. Mr. Kodama is a member of the Rotary Club of Sumner and has been active in the Sumner community for many years.

Heirs of the American Experiment—the title of the event—comes from a 1944 quote by U. S. Supreme Court Justice Frank Murphy: "All residents of this nation are kin in some way by blood or culture to a foreign land. Yet they are primarily and necessarily a part of the new and distinct civilization of the United States. They must accordingly be treated at all times as the heirs of the American experiment and as entitled to all the rights and freedoms guaranteed by the Constitution."
Children Build Skills by Reading with Dogs at Pierce County Library System
BLK-Sumner Patch

Reading with a dog will help children develop important literacy fundamentals during free events at three Pierce County Libraries, from September to December.

Posted by April Chan (Editor), September 02, 2013 at 10:22 PM

Credit: Patch file photo

Information from the Pierce County Library System

TACOMA – Reading with a dog will help children develop important literacy fundamentals during free events at three Pierce County Libraries, from September to December.

Read to a Dog events at the libraries encourage children to build literacy skills through the assistance of registered therapy dogs. Children feel comfortable reading out loud, read more often, attempt more difficult books, and look forward to reading.

"Children and dogs build a rapport and both enjoy the reading time," said Neel Parikh, executive director for Pierce County Library System. "Families are amazed at how children gain confidence in their reading and can't wait to open another book."

Graham Pierce County Library, 9202 224th St. E. Tuesdays, Oct. 1 – Nov. 12, 6:30 – 7:30 p.m.

Summit Pierce County Library, 5107 112th St. E. Wednesdays, Sept. 11, Oct. 9, Nov. 13 and Dec. 11, 3 – 4 p.m.

Sumner Pierce County Library, 1116 Fryar Ave. Wednesdays, Oct. 9 and 23, Nov. 13, 4 – 5 p.m. Fridays, Oct. 4 and 18, Nov. 1 and 15, 4 – 5 p.m.

No registration required. The Friends of the Libraries sponsor these free events.

The libraries will use only those dogs that have passed the required obedience and temperament testing, and are registered by an accredited therapy dog organization.

Research on animal-assisted therapy and activities shows that the presence of an animal encourages relaxation, lowering blood pressure and heart rate. Children who formerly did not enjoy reading often begin to look forward to sessions with a furry friend. As they start making positive associations between time spent with the dog and reading, they begin to view reading in a positive light. In time, children's reading ability and confidence can improve because they are practicing their skills in a comfortable environment, which will make them enjoy reading even more.
Therapy dogs help kids in Puyallup learn to read

King 5 News

Credit: KING
by ROBERTA ROMERO / KING 5 News
Bio | Email
Posted on September 5, 2013 at 12:08 PM
See all 5 photos »

PUYALLUP, Wash. -- 150 lbs. of fur stretches across the floor at Puyallup Public Library. French Mastiff "Bruiser" is a regular visitor here. Bruiser, a trained therapy dog, has a job -- he helps young children read.

Librarian Bonnie Anderson began the dog helper program eight years ago, after she saw it at a conference.

"It just makes sense, the dogs calm the kids down and provides an attentive audience," says Anderson. "I've watched kids become better readers simply by sitting next to a dog like Bruiser."

And what a dog! The moment Bruiser walks into the children's section, he becomes a rock star. Kids flock to him.

Owner Angie Reed said, "Bruiser loves kids, and wants to be petted and cuddled." That cuddling can be a bit difficult when the dog outweighs the child by more than a 100 lbs.

Seven-year-old Patrick Hopkins couldn't wait to sit next to Bruiser and begin reading aloud.

"I got the book 'Go Dog Go' because I think he'll like it," said Patrick.

Seven-year-old Margo Hermann read for a few minutes, but soon put the book down and rested her head on Bruisers' belly. Bruisers reaction? He kept on napping.

There are several dogs in the program besides Bruiser. The Puyallup Public Library posts times when the dogs are available.
You are what you eat, What's in your food? Come and find out on Sept. 14th
BLK-Sumner Patch

Posted by Jill Cartwright, September 05, 2013 at 07:49 AM
Comment Recommend

Free events in Sumner about Genetically Engineered Foods and why we need to label them.

“The food you eat can be either the safest and most powerful form of medicine or the slowest form of poison.” Dr. Ann Wigmore

I never thought I would have to speak out in defense of real food, but unfortunately that’s exactly where you and I are right now. Currently, 64 countries around the world require labeling of genetically engineered foods, but not the United States, what do they all know that we don’t know? Since the beginning of time humans have relied on growing and saving seeds to plant from one year to the next, nourishing our bodies with the nutrients we need to grow, live and reproduce from one generation to the next. These very seeds that produce the miracle of life over and over again are at risk due to Genetically Engineering.

"And the time came when the risk to remain tight in a bud was more painful than the risk it took to blossom."-Anais Nin

I cannot just sit back and pretend this is not happening, so my friend Katharine Rode and me have joined forces and have organized 3 different events all taking place on Sat. Sept. 14th in Sumner, we hope to educate and inform you, our fellow neighbors, about Genetically Engineered Foods (GMO’s). Hopefully you can attend at least one of these FREE events and become more knowledgeable about the food you’re eating and how I think they’re causing havoc to our health, our environment and the future of seed saving.
I’m speaking between 6-7:30 at the Sumner Library.
Thank you for your consideration, Jill Cartwright
I’ve included a few links for more information about Genetically Modified Organisms and encourage you to read more about it. Please watch the Music Video on GMO’s “Question What’s Inside” written and performed by Rob Herring http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lu2qKl2Ju9s and Robyn O’Brien’s video, http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=rixyrCNVVGAg&feature=shareThis In my opinion, these are an excellent source of information and a good place to start.

This post is contributed by a community member. The views expressed in this blog are those of the author and do not necessarily reflect those of Patch Media Corporation. Everyone is welcome to submit a post to Patch. If you’d like to post a blog, go here to get started.
Earthquakes: living with a shifting earth at Pierce County Library System

Pierce County residents will learn how to live and prosper in earthquake country during free events at Pierce County Libraries in September and October.

Earthquake experts will share simple actions—as well as tools and products—to help plan for and respond to earthquakes. They will also discuss the underlying science and geologic processes behind Washington's earthquakes.

Bonney Lake Pierce County Library, 18501 90th St. E., Friday, Sept. 20, 2 p.m.

Buckley Pierce County Library, 123 S. River Ave., Thursday, Oct. 3, 4 p.m.

Graham Pierce County Library, 9202 224th St. E., Wednesday, Oct. 2, 7 p.m.

Lakewood Pierce County Library, 6300 Wildaire Road S.W., Thursday, Sept. 25, 7 p.m.

Parkland/Spanaway Pierce County Library, 13718 Pacific Ave. S., Thursday, Sept. 19, 7 p.m.

South Hill Pierce County Library, 15420 Meridian E., Wednesday, Sept. 25, 7 p.m.

Summit Pierce County Library, 5107 112th St. E., Tuesday, Oct. 1, 6 p.m.

Sumner Pierce County Library, 1116 Fryar Ave., Wednesday, Sept. 18, 6:30 p.m.

Tillicum Pierce County Library, 14916 Washington Ave. S.W., Tuesday, Sept. 24, 6 p.m.

Participants may enter a drawing for a chance to win a copy of "Full Rip 9.0: The Next Big Earthquake in the Pacific Northwest" by Sandi Doughton.

Pierce County Department of Emergency Management and Pacific Northwest Seismic Network sponsor these free events.
The Paul G. Allen Family Foundation funds science program at Library

The Suburban Times | September 2, 2013 | 0 Comments

Thanks to a generous Paul G. Allen Family Foundation/Faye G. Allen Library Program grant, children in kindergarten through third grade will build science and learning skills through a Science to Go program at Pierce County Library System.

The Foundation named its Library Program after Paul and Jody Allen’s mother, Faye. Her love of literature led to a lifetime commitment to public libraries.

The $175,000 grant is the single largest donation to Pierce County Library Foundation; second only to the Paul G. Allen Foundation grant of $150,000 earlier this year to support a new online reading rewards platform to be launched by the Library in 2014.

With the grant, the Library will launch the K-3 Science to Go program next year. This program will touch the lives of thousands of children.

This two-year grant funds an 18-month position for a librarian, who will coordinate a community advisory committee to design curriculum and programming. The grant also will provide 2,000 new science-related nonfiction books for young readers, 550 backpacks, science kits, and significant outreach to elementary schools in the Bethel, Clover Park and Franklin Pierce School Districts.

STEM (Science, Technology, Engineering and Math) development has been identified as a significant focus area for children of all ages at the federal, state and local level. Supporting youth in building skills to succeed in school and the future are core priorities for Pierce County Libraries.

The Pierce County Library Foundation is the philanthropic arm of the Library System. The mission of the Foundation is to raise, manage and allocate funds to support and enhance programs and services for the Pierce County Library System which are not funded by taxes or other traditional revenue sources.
Libraries

Book Discussion Groups

by Kit Thompson
Community contributor

People in the community are invited to participate in a free book discussion group at Summit Pierce County Library in Tacoma.

New members are welcome when this fun and lighthearted book group meets to talk about best-selling books by award-winning authors. The Second Saturday Book Discussion Group will meet on the following Saturdays at 2 p.m.

Sept. 14 – “The Highest Tide” by Jim Lynch
Oct. 12 – “Sonata for Miriam” by Linda Olsson

These and other books, DVDs, e-books and audiobooks are available to check out at Summit Pierce County Library.

—Kit Thompson is a content writer for the Pierce County Library System.
Calendar clips 9.13.13

ParentMap Magazine, September 2013

**Toddler Time at the Seattle Aquarium.**
A drop-in program featuring a rotating roster of marine and science-based activities. Select Mondays and Tuesdays, 9:30 a.m.–noon. Included with admission. Ages 5 and under with caregiver. Seattle Aquarium. seattleaquarium.org ONGOING EVENT

**Teen Knitting and Crocheting for Charity.**
Teens use their artistic skills for good, making hats, scarves and blanket squares. All levels welcome and materials provided. 4–5 p.m. FREE. Ages 12 and up. Pierce County Library System, South Hill Branch, Puyallup. piercecountylibrary.org

**Rockin’ Pete The Cat Party.** Whether you’re a longtime Pete the Cat fan or new to this groovy fellow, stop by for some Pete-inspired fun. 10:30 a.m. FREE. Ages 8 and under. Pierce County Library System, University Place Branch. piercecountylibrary.org

**Student Wednesday at BAM.** Every second Wednesday of the month, BAM invites students to visit its temporary and permanent exhibits. 11 a.m.–5 p.m. FREE for grades K–12 with online coupon. Bellevue Arts Museum. bellevuearts.org

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The News Tribune

Milton Edgewood Library Friends Used Book Sale
Library Reading Groups, Sept. 19
Members of the community are invited to share ideas with free book discussion groups at Gig Harbor Pierce County Library, 4424 Point Fosdick Drive NW. All are welcome to participate in two separate book discussion groups hosted by library staff. One group talks about fiction books, and the other group selects nonfiction titles for discussion. The groups meet January through October. The Fiction Book Discussion Group meets on the third Thursday of the month. Readers are invited to join the group on Thursdays, from 2:30 to 4 p.m., to discuss the following titles: Sept. 19, "The Thousand Autumns of Jacob de Zoet" by David Mitchell; Oct. 17, "Time is a River" by Mary Alice Monroe. The Nonfiction Book Discussion Group meets on the fourth Thursday of the month. People are invited to stop by Gig Harbor Library to pick up the current month's book, and join the group when they meet 7 to 8:30 p.m., on Thursdays, Sept. 26, and Oct. 24. Books are available at Gig Harbor Pierce County Library. People may also get books, DVDs, e-books, audiobooks and more through Pierce County Library's online catalog, available through the Library's website.

SAT Practice Test, Oct. 5
Practice tests and writing tips will help students and their parents become better prepared for college. Gain a basic understanding of the SAT test and simple strategies that will make the test less intimidating. SAT practice test from 10 a.m. to 2 p.m., Saturday, Oct. 5 at the Gig Harbor Pierce County Library, 4424 Point Fosdick Drive. Free event. For information, visit piercecountylibrary.org.

Block Play, Oct. 10
Building with blocks develops a child's math and science skills, and provides lots of fun. Parents and caregivers are invited to bring chil-

Gig Harbor Life
Sept. 6, 2013
Communications

- An email sent to Neel Parikh from Christine Perkins, Executive Director of Whatcom County Library System (WCLS), passing along kudos for Susan Anderson-Newham’s inspiring presentation at the WCLS All Staff Learning Day on September 13, 2013.
- A letter sent to Sally Porter Smith from Barbara Klipper, Priority Group Consultant at the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), expressing appreciation for Judy Nelson’s outstanding contribution as chair of the Every Child Ready to Read Oversight Committee.
From: Christine Perkins <Christine.Perkins@WCLS.org>
Date: September 16, 2013, 5:17:18 PM PDT
To: Neel Parikh <NParikh@piercecountylibrary.org>, Georgia Lomax <glomax@piercecountylibrary.org>
Subject: Kudos to Susan!

Neel and Georgia:

Just passing along some kudos for Susan Anderson-Newham, who spoke at the WCLS All Staff Learning Day on Friday.
Wow! She is truly a mover and shaker – a dynamic speaker, able to get the crowd chuckling, then teary-eyed, then laughing again.
Although we have been singing the Early Learning song for some time now, Susan’s presentation was inspiring and you could see the lightbulbs (finally) going on for some staff. I wish we had videotaped it! Rats. Anyway, we discovered that Susan and I were 1 year apart at UW GSLIS...I knew she looked familiar.
You’ve got a gem, as I’m sure you know, but thought you’d like to hear it from us, too.

Cheers!

--Christine

Christine Perkins
Executive Director
Whatcom County Library System
360-305-3600 Ext.201

www.wcls.org

Note: My incoming/outgoing email messages are subject to public disclosure requirements per RCW 42.56.
Sally Porter Smith  
Customer Experience Director  
Pierce County Library System  
3005 112th Street E  
Tacoma, WA 98446

July 25, 2013

Dear Ms. Smith,

I am writing on behalf of the Association for Library Service to Children (ALSC), a division of the American Library Association, to express our appreciation for Judy Nelson’s outstanding contribution as chair of the Every Child Ready to Read Oversight Committee.

Judy did an excellent job in guiding the work of this important committee, which is jointly administered by ALSC and the Public Library Association (PLA). During her time as chair, the committee took on a number of important projects, including the translation of ECRR materials into Spanish and the sponsorship of a successful conference program on STEAM (science, technology, engineering, art and math), a timely and important topic for youth librarians. This coming year, a PLA member will chair the committee, and Judy has left a solid foundation for her successor to build on.

My role as Priority Group Consultant for ALSC means that I serve as a liaison between committee chairs like Judy and the staff and Board of this division of ALA. It is in this capacity that I worked with Judy during her time as chair of this committee. But I also served with Judy on the Schneider Family Book Award jury, and I know from that experience how committed she is to her ALA work, and how much she has done through the years, not only for ALSC, but also for the teen division YALSA.

I am sure you join me in commending Judy for her hard work and her contribution to the profession. Thank you very much for your support of her participation in ALSC.

Yours Truly,

Barbara Klipper  
ALSC, Priority Group Consultant  
Priority Group 1: Advocacy

cc: Judy Nelson
Other Libraries

- The Library As Catalyst For Civic Engagement
- Next Time, Libraries Could Be Our Shelters From the Storm
- Building the Future
- Melding Minds to Make a Library
- Should libraries ban pornography on public computers
- DPL Connect: Denver’s Very Own Pedal-Powered Mobile Library!
- ROI Study (Santa Clara County Library District)
- ROI Study (Salt Lake County Library Services)
As libraries become less about physical access to information, they are more likely to be valued for their importance to the community.

By Bill Ptacek

In 2020, the public library will be a concept more than a place. The library will be more about what it does for people rather than what it has for people. As society evolves and more content becomes digital, people will access information in different ways. Physical items will be less important than they have been up to now. Library buildings and spaces will be used in different ways, and services will be provided beyond the building and virtually. The library as a catalyst for civic engagement will facilitate learning and growth for people of all ages.

Expanding the library footprint
The demand for public libraries has traditionally been driven by the users who walked through the doors. Reference librarians were on hand to answer patron questions primarily using print materials that were carefully collected to be responsive to such inquiries. Young children and their families visited the library to attend story times. Others pured shelves to find information to meet a need or pique an interest. In other words, people came to the place to get the service.

Joseph Janes is Associate Professor and Chair of the MLIS Program at the University of Washington Information School, Seattle, and creator of "Documents That Changed the World," a podcast series available on iTunes

Over time, access to the library has expanded. Telephone service enabled patrons to find information without having to visit the library. Computer technology ushered in a whole new era that initially tethered patrons to library workstations but gradually cast a wider net so that patrons could use the library virtually by way of the Internet. Titles could be perused online rather than on shelves, and items could be held and picked up at any library location convenient to the patron.

"Come to us for stuff." I'm not sure any library has actually used that as a marketing pitch or description of its mission—phy as it is. For many of us, though, it neatly encapsulates the libraries with which we grew up.

Look at that directive very closely, and you find three important words: come, us, and stuff. Each of them seems quite firm and familiar...but if you turn your head and squint a little, they all sort of go a bit fuzzy. What does come mean now? What do we mean by stuff? And who and what is us again?

It's obvious that we are living through a transition away from—a diminishment of the importance of—the physical information object. Books, scholarly journals, magazines, newspapers, CDs, DVDs, even physical storage media and devices are being complemented and in many cases supplant ed by digital, streaming, and cloud-based media.

This changing landscape of delivery models and distribution channels is giving publishers and others involved in the content distribution ecosystem new opportunities to maximize profit, even at the expense of old friends and compatriots like libraries. At the same time, it raises issues of intellectual property and...
In his recent book *Library 2020: Today’s Leading Visionaries Describe Tomorrow’s Library* (Scarecrow), Joseph Janes invited librarians and other library stakeholders to present their visions of the library in the near-term future that we are already gearing up to meet. The resulting essays took on every aspect of the library: its space, its mission, its people. As part of the run-up to its virtual event, *The Digital Shift: Reinventing Libraries* (www.thedigitalshift.com/reinventinglibraries), to be held on October 17, *LJ* is contemplating reinvention via excerpts of several of the essays from the book that present a small sampling of these visions.

**ENGAGEMENT**

privacy concerns, as well as cultural and social questions of what “writing” and “reading” will be and what new forms and genres will arise. These separate but related issues interact, and there are multiple actors involved, some in more than one of these realms. Taken together, they form one of the more pervasive themes of *Library 2020*, and that’s well illustrated by the essay here.

In assembling the book, I gave each contributor very little guidance and only two instructions: don’t be boring, and start your essay with “The library in 2020 will be....” I also tried to get a wide range of background, experience, point of view, and time in the profession. I got what I wanted. A set of a couple dozen essays, none more than a few pages long, with a multiplicity of ideas, images, and perspectives, ranging from just this side of sunshine and unicorns to bleak and dystopian, from some names you likely know and a few you’ll be hearing much more from in the future.

The good folks at *LJ* are very graciously excerpting three essays from the book over the next few issues, beginning with this piece from Bill Plack, director of the King County Library System (KCLS). KCLS is a great library (as is Seattle Public Library, the University of Washington libraries—we’re quite blessed here, not to mention that we have Nancy Pearl!), and it has experimented with a number of innovative and provocative ideas over the last decade or so, which you’ll get a taste of here.

One of the central, if not the central, premise of libraries, certainly in the popular mind-set, is books on shelves: And if there are fewer book on fewer shelves, then the library is for, um, what exactly?

Lots of people are asking that question. (More than a few, sadly, I fear, are not.) Many are thinking hard, critically, and creatively about it, and some are starting to come up with some most intriguing and stimulating answers. Read on!—**Joseph Janes**

Reference services required less involvement by reference librarians as print resources gradually shifted to digital formats, enabling patrons to access information themselves, anytime or anywhere, without having to go through a “gatekeeper” librarian. In general, patrons appreciated the disintermediation of service.

As communication and digital technologies become even more pervasive, libraries will be required to provide content that can be used on whatever is the “device du jour.” That means there will be fewer print books on shelves and greater digital content available online. The library lending model of acquiring content for the entire community that can be used and shared by many will work as well with electronic formats as it does for print. Ten years from now, publishers (if they are still in the mix), authors, and content providers, such as Amazon, will recognize libraries as a viable distribution option.
for digital content that can help them maximize profits and increase the exposure of authors and their work in the same way that bookstores have done over the last century.

As these trends continue to evolve, there will be less programmed space in libraries. As libraries become less about physical access to information, they are more likely to be valued for their importance to the community—as gathering places for civic, educational, and social engagement. The experience of the King County Library System (KCLS) has been that as the size of the collection diminishes, the demand for computer workstations grows. KCLS’s libraries have always been full of people, from those studying for the bar exam to others who are homeless and seeking shelter from the elements. Students find libraries convenient places to work on homework or team projects, and community groups rely on the library for meeting spaces.

A place to learn
As new technologies become available, the library will be a place to go, either physically or virtually, to learn. Since the explosion in e-reader sales, KCLS branches are filled with people who want to learn how to use this new technology. The popularity of discussion groups and lecture series creates a great model for lifelong learning, especially for the baby boomer generation that will be well into retirement ten years from now. Similarly, libraries provide tremendous assistance to people who are new to the country. Citizenship classes, English as second language classes, and life-skills programs are all popular in KCLS libraries. As a consequence of offering myriad services to transitional communities, entire families have become loyal library patrons—sometimes spanning several generations.

Libraries can also play a role in virtual learning. There is much work being done on game theory and its uses in education. Libraries are not tied to specific curriculum and can take a leadership role in the development and distribution of software that facilitates learning through the paradigm of games. There is also great promise in the concept of crowdsourcing, a technology that uses computer games to engage large and diverse groups of people to capture information and solutions on a wide variety of issues. Such games have been used to gather input in forums as disparate as genetic research to development of wetlands areas.

Hosting the civic discourse
Public libraries are local, neutral, and respected for providing information that represents different viewpoints. Given its resources and community connections, it is the perfect arena to engage the community in civic discourse on important community issues. With the demise of local news sources, it would be reasonable to assume that local governments, service providers, and community leaders will turn to the library as a venue for discussion and feedback on issues that affect the public. At the same time, this role is consistent with the public’s perception of libraries as a trusted source for information and meaningful community participation.

Recently, KCLS offered to initiate a civic-engagement process with the city of Kirkland, a mid-sized community in the KCLS service area. The city, which had acquired a portion of an abandoned railway corridor, wanted to solicit the community’s input on the best way to develop the land for public use, which included ideas such as a light-rail line, bike trail, nature trail, or park. The city’s usual decision-making process would have been to host a public meeting and gather comments from those attending, which typically are the same few people who attend every public meeting. KCLS’s process involved distributing and collecting comment forms at the Kirkland Library, hosting an online public forum, virtual meetings, a design charrette, and a culminating report to the Kirkland City Council. The process garnered input from nearly 700 people, including comments from experts outside the community who were interested in the issue and learned about it through the virtual forum.

Supporting students
Two other crucial areas that will define the public library of the next decade are its role in supporting the information needs of K–12 students and its position to lead community efforts for early-childhood literacy.

Public libraries can help meet the information needs of K–12 students who are affected by the erosion in funding for school libraries. Librarians will work closely with teachers to help them use or access information that best fits their curriculum needs. Digital reference materials in public library collections will be aggregated to fit specific needs or subject areas, and other library educational resources, such as instructional gaming software or the Kahn approach to independent learning, create services and resources perfectly suited to a public library–public school partnership. Outreach vehicles designed as mobile learning labs and stocked with math, science, and technology hardware and software will allow library staff to reach larger numbers of students at school and after-school sites. As schools face increasing pressure to achieve better student test scores, the library can provide materials and tutoring on test-taking techniques and other academic competencies required of youngsters who are entering the world of standardized tests. The KCLS Study Zone program is a free tutoring service offered after school and on weekends where students can work with a
the general public. Librarians as information experts will become the gatekeepers to limited sources of information, they will need to be able to comb through vast amounts of data to find just the right information. Understanding the patron and linking that understanding to relevant content will be the art of librarianship. And all of this will take place outside of the library, outside the library, virtually.

It is imperative that the public library remain relevant to the people it serves. In the future, libraries will be less about services and more about how to be of service. Research on patron interests and behavior patterns will be crucial to this effort, and libraries will have to be adept at marketing and customer-insight techniques. If libraries can continue to stay ahead of the curve on new technologies and improve the patron experience, they will ensure the value of the library for the next generation.

The librarian of the future

The next decade's librarian will spend less time dealing with the physical aspects of content, for example, labeling, shelving, checking out items, and more time acting as consultant to the general public. Librarians as information experts will become the gatekeepers to limited sources of information, they will need to be able to comb through vast amounts of data to find just the right information. Understanding the patron and linking that understanding to relevant content will be the art of librarianship. And all of this will take place outside of the library, outside the library, virtually.

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Next Time, Libraries Could Be Our Shelters From the Storm

By MICHAEL KIMMELMAN

Two big storms and a major blackout have battered New York City since the Sept. 11 attacks. Climate change threatens higher tides and more extreme heat. Architects and engineers look for ways to respond.

So here’s an out-of-the-box suggestion: Let’s build more branch libraries.

That thought came to mind while talking with Eric Klinenberg, a sociologist at New York University, who wrote a book about the 1995 heat wave in Chicago, which killed hundreds. Mr. Klinenberg discovered that while many predominantly poor neighborhoods fared badly, others, also poor, didn’t.

The difference? Less ravaged neighborhoods were more densely populated, with vibrant commercial strips and social networks, community gardens, parks and well-tended sidewalks. They drew people out of overheated homes and into the streets, shops, gardens, parks, and into libraries, too: places where there were things to do and friends to meet.

“People needed cool places to go,” is how Mr. Klinenberg put it to me. He meant oases that weren’t only air-conditioned or breezy. He meant destinations that were also attractive and familiar. Official city-run “cooling stations” in centers for the elderly, police stations and hospitals tend to be the last places people want to hang out. So they don’t.

A couple of lessons: Places that serve us well every day serve us best when disaster strikes. Health and safety go hand in hand with lively urban spaces. Invest in one, and you aid the other. Also, disasters can be opportunities.

It was instructive, after Hurricane Sandy, to see where relief hubs sprang up. The Rockaway Beach Surf Club, a party space in one of the hardest-hit areas, sheltered a homegrown movement. The club’s young owners, anxious to be good neighbors, posted a note on Facebook: If you need anything, come; if you have anything, bring it.

Hundreds arrived, then thousands, some bringing generators, even solar panels. People came to charge phones, locate a plumber, find a lawyer and commiserate with neighbors. They left dark, flooded, scary, lonely homes for the fellowship of a bright, crowded place.
The club became the heartbeat for a struggling neighborhood. It had a big yard and open spaces, so it was adaptable and good for crowds. A similar island after the storm, in Brooklyn, the Red Hook Initiative, is a community youth center hard by public housing, whose thousands of residents lost heat, electricity and running water. Without a basement that could be flooded, the Initiative weathered Sandy unscathed.

It had a kitchen for hot meals and a big common room, so groups could congregate. There was art on the walls, which made the place cheery. For weeks, the Initiative became a beehive, with residents and relief workers providing crisis counseling, checking in on homebound older people, collecting and distributing supplies, money and employment advice about recovery-related jobs. Like the Surf Club, the building was open and adaptable, an already organic part of the community, with a staff flexible enough to let outsiders in and take over.

Mr. Klinenberg stopped by the Initiative the other morning. He was shepherding several dozen competing architects and engineers around Red Hook as research director for the innovative Rebuild by Design competition organized by Shaun Donovan, President Obama’s secretary of housing and urban development, who oversees the Hurricane Sandy Rebuilding Task Force.

“Can we design places like this?” Mr. Klinenberg asked the group at the youth center.

Serendipity played a big role after the storm. Elsewhere in Red Hook, an art gallery-real estate office, Real Estate Collective, became another hub, the art providing solace, or so neighbors said. The window racks normally for apartment listings morphed into an impromptu billboard for neighborhood announcements.

To some extent, churches, libraries, schools and malls already serve as emergency centers, albeit not all churches responded or were equipped to be of help after Sandy. And as the novelist Zadie Smith lamented last year in The New York Review of Books, apropos the closing of neighborhood libraries in London, libraries are “the only thing left on the high street that doesn’t want either your soul or your wallet.”

Even schools are not quite like branch libraries. The branches have become our de facto community centers, serving the widest range of citizens — indispensable in countless, especially poorer, more vulnerable neighborhoods. They are much threatened by budget cuts, but never more in demand by toddlers and teenagers, working parents, the elderly and the unemployed, new immigrants and traditional readers.

With disaster in mind, they could be designed in the future with electrical systems out of harm’s way and set up with backup generators and solar panels, even kitchens and wireless mesh networks. After September 2001, Americans built bollards, barriers and berms. We
outfitted airports and office buildings with metal detectors and long lines, fortified command centers, installed street cameras and constrained access to many sidewalks and plazas.

“We were possibly preventing another attack but certainly making our lives less pleasant and efficient,” is how Mr. Klinenberg phrases it.

In this case, we can learn from the Rockaways and Red Hook. If serendipity can’t be planned, it can be planned for; still, we shouldn’t have to rely on it. Disasters aside, branch libraries are a safe and equitable bet on our social and economic health. Trustees at the always tin-cup-wielding New York Public Library are now pondering a $300 million renovation scheme for its 42nd Street landmark. (Bill de Blasio, the Democratic candidate for mayor, told me recently that if elected, he would take a second look at the Bloomberg administration’s promise of $150 million in taxpayer money toward that renovation.) Meanwhile, potential billions in federal dollars could be available to rebuild the region, post-Sandy.

Maybe some of those resources could go toward improving our lives every day in ways that will also serve us well after the next disaster strikes.
Building the Future

By Phil Morehart

Welcome to the 2013 Library Design Showcase, AL's annual celebration of new and newly renovated libraries. These libraries are shining examples of innovative architecture that addresses user needs in unique, interesting, and effective ways.

See more selections at americanlibrariesmagazine.org.
ROOMS WITH A VIEW

SPARTANBURG COUNTY (S.C.) PUBLIC LIBRARY—MIDDLE TYGER BRANCH
Midde Tyger library's renovation took full advantage of the surrounding landscape by creating open spaces and reading rooms with windows that look out over the Middle Tyger River.

Renovation
Spieze Architectural Group
Size: 13,000 square feet
Cost: $250,000
Photo: Ian Curcio Photography

KETCHIKAN (ALASKA) PUBLIC LIBRARY
Ketchikan Public Library's design recalls the canneries, lumber mills, and Native American longhouses of the city's past. Large windows allow light to brighten the interiors, while also creating stunning views of the surrounding wilderness.

New Construction
Bettisworth Welsh Whiteley, LLC
Size: 16,250 square feet
Cost: $8,792,217
Photo: Kevin G. Smith Photography

TECH TEENS

SCHAUMBURG TOWNSHIP (ILL.) DISTRICT LIBRARY
Schaumburg repurposed office space to create a teen area comprised of a soundproofed multipurpose room with gaming stations, collaboration stations, connected discussion rooms, a quiet room, a café, and a professional digital media production studio.

Renovation
Dewberry
Size: 6,000 square feet
Cost: $1.5 million
Photo: Mariusz Mizera
THE SHAPE OF THINGS

SAN JOSÉ (CALIF.) PUBLIC LIBRARY—SEVEN TREES BRANCH

Seven Trees branch's angular lines and turret-like walls give the library a unique look that nods to both the past and future. Large clerestory windows and an open layout on the second floor bring in an abundance of natural light. The functional design also allows for views of the hills east of San José.

New Construction
Rob Wellington Quigley, FAIA
Size: 15,567 square feet
Cost: $8.9 million
Photo: San José Public Library

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC LIBRARY—WILLIAM O. LOCKRIDGE / BELLEVUE NEIGHBORHOOD BRANCH

The William O. Lockridge/Bellevue Neighborhood branch is a commanding, positive presence in an impoverished area, featuring a large, three-story glass, wood, and concrete main building with three extending, geometric-shaped pavilions.

New Construction
Adjaye Associates
Wiencek + Associates
Size: 22,000 square feet
Cost: $13.5 million
Photo: Maxine Schnitzer
YOUTH SPACES

BEVERLY HILLS (CALIF.) PUBLIC LIBRARY'S CHILDREN'S LIBRARY

The renovations at Beverly Hills Public Library's Children's Library include the construction of a theater that accommodates 80 kids for storytimes and movies; an Enchanted Woods room that pays tribute to children's book illustrations; and a barrel vault and swooping archways that mimic pages turning.

Renovation and Expansion
Johnson Favaro, LLC
Size: 12,000 square feet
Cost: $3.2 million
Photo: Richard Zale Rubins

DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA PUBLIC LIBRARY—FRANCIS A. GREGORY NEIGHBORHOOD BRANCH

The Francis A. Gregory branch's children's room mimics a treehouse. Painted different shades of green, it features reading nooks set into windows that look out into the surrounding trees.

New Construction
Adjaye Associates
Wiencek + Associates
Size: 22,000 square feet
Cost: $13.5 million
Photo: Maxine Schnitzer

OUTDOOR LIBRARIES

NEDERLAND (COLO.) COMMUNITY LIBRARY

Situated along the Peak to Peak Scenic and Historic Byway, the new Nederland Community Library was designed for full appreciation of Colorado's natural beauty, complete with a deck overlooking a small creek that runs alongside the library.

New Construction
OZ Architecture
Size: 4,500 square feet
Cost: $1.3 million
Photo: Tim Murphy, Foto Imagery

NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY AT RALEIGH—JAMES B. HUNT, JR. LIBRARY

The award-winning design of James B. Hunt Jr. Library in Raleigh (also on p. 38) includes high-def video walls, a film studio, an exhibit gallery, and videoconferencing and telepresence facilities, but the Skyline Terrace with a panoramic North Carolina view steals the show.

New Construction
Snahetta
Size: 221,122 square feet
Cost: $93.75 million
Photo: Jeff Goldberg
REUSE AND RESTORATION

ST. LOUIS PUBLIC LIBRARY—CENTRAL LIBRARY
The 100-year-old Central Library's award-winning renovation (also on p. 39) involved transforming a once-closed seven-story stacks area into a soaring atrium with mezzanine, and converting a former coal storage area into a 250-seat auditorium, expanding children's and teen rooms, and creating a new entrance with a reflecting pool. Overall, the restoration resulted in an 83% increase in public space.

Renovation and Expansion
Cannon Design
Size: 187,500 square feet
Cost: $70 million
Photo: Timothy Hursley

UNIVERSITY OF MASSACHUSETTS, DARTMOUTH—CLAIRE T. CARNEY LIBRARY
One of the most significant examples of postwar Brutalist architecture, Claire T. Carney Library underwent a renovation and expansion that added a bright browsing area and a café, and redesigned reading rooms, teaching labs, service desks, and study areas for easier navigation.

Renovation and Expansion
DesignLAB Architects
Size: 190,000 square feet (total); 22,000 square feet (expansion)
Cost: $40 million
Photo: Peter Vanderwarker

SMALL WONDER

SAN DIEGO COUNTY (CALIF.) LIBRARY—LINCOLN ACRES BRANCH
Though small in size, the new Lincoln Acres branch of San Diego County Library is three times larger than the previous facility that served the community. The LEED Silver-rated building sports solar panels and a children's room adorned with a mosaic mural dedicated to teen staff member José Luis Rodríguez, who was the victim of a random, unsolved shooting.

New Construction
Safdie Rabines Architects
Size: 2,750 square feet
Cost: $3.5 million
Photo credit: San Diego County Library
SERVICE FLEXIBILITY

DALLAS PUBLIC LIBRARY—POLK-WISDOM BRANCH
The Polk-Wisdom branch maximized its small size by focusing on flexibility. Mobile study rooms, storytime walls, shelving units, and staff workstations allow patrons and staff to create work spaces by simply moving furniture.

Renovation and Expansion
Hidell and Associates Architects
Size: 16,800 square feet
Cost: $2.9 million
Photo: Patrick Coulie

COLLABORATIVE LEARNING

DIXIE STATE UNIVERSITY, ST. GEORGE, UTAH—JEFFREY R. HOLLAND CENTENNIAL COMMONS
Dixie State University's new facility is an information hub for the campus. The library, with its showcase digital commons, shares space with the English department, a writing center, career services, and the IT department, allowing students and faculty easy access to services in one building.

New Construction
Sasaki Associates
VCBO Architecture
Size: 172,000 square feet
Cost: $41 million
Photo: David Becker, John Burns, Paul Richer

CAMDEN COUNTY (N.J.) LIBRARY SYSTEM—NILSA I. CRUZ-PEREZ DOWNTOWN BRANCH
Located inside the Paul Robeson Library on the Rutgers-Camden Campus, the Nilsa I. Cruz-Perez Downtown branch occupies 5,000 square feet of space that once held academic stacks. The compact branch also features offices, a programming room, a digital classroom, and public access computers.

New Construction
Carlos Raul Rodriguez Architect
Size: 5,000 square feet
Cost: $2.5 million
Photo: Nicholas Henderson
The following libraries are winners of the 2013 Library Building Awards, sponsored by the American Institute of Architects (AIA) and ALA’s Library Leadership and Management Association. For the past 50 years, the biennial award has recognized distinguished accomplishment in library architecture by an architect licensed in the United States for any library in the US or abroad. The awards were presented at the AIA Chicago office in conjunction with the 2013 ALA Annual Conference.

**A**

**SOUTH MOUNTAIN COMMUNITY LIBRARY, PHOENIX**

This building integrates the varied uses of a public library with the needs of a state-of-the-art academic library, allowing each to function both independently and collaboratively. The design is modeled on an integrated circuit, providing insulation between disparate functions and promoting interaction and connection between like functions and spaces.

- **Richard Bauer**
- Size: 51,600 square feet
- Cost: $16.3 million
- Photo: Mark Boisclair

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**B**

**NORTH CAROLINA STATE UNIVERSITY AT RALEIGH—JAMES B. HUNT, JR. LIBRARY**

Designed to LEED Silver requirements, James B. Hunt, Jr. Library features fritted glass and a fixed external aluminum shading system that helps diminish heat gain, maximize views of a nearby lake, and provide abundant ambient natural light. Ceiling-mounted, active chilled beams and radiant panels provide heating and cooling, and rain gardens and green roofs help manage storm water.

- **Snehetta and Pearce Brinkley Cease + Lee**
- Size: 221,122 square feet
- Cost: $93.75 million
- Photo: Jeff Goldberg
C NEW YORK PUBLIC LIBRARY—HAMILTON GRANGE BRANCH, NEW YORK CITY
Located on the previously empty third-floor space of Hamilton Grange branch library in Harlem, the teen center is New York Public Library’s first full-floor space dedicated to teens. In an effort to attract and engage neighborhood youth, the space challenges the norms of library design. The light-filled floor is divided into specific zones that foster small-group interaction and socialization.
Rice+Lipka Architects
Size: 4,400 square feet
Cost: $1.8 million
Photo: Michael Moran

D ANACOSTIA NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY,
WASHINGTON, D.C.
A small-scale residential context provided the inspiration for the design of this new branch library, located in a low-income, underserved neighborhood in Washington, D.C. The project not only fulfilled programmatic needs, but also provided a stimulus for community pride and economic development. The residential scale is reflected in the library design as a series of pavilions for program areas that require enclosure: the children’s program room, the young adults’ area, support spaces, and public meeting rooms. The remainder of the level-one plan is high, open space for the main reading room, stacks, computers, and public seating areas. A large green roof structure provides shelter over all program areas.
The Freelon Group
Size: 22,348 square feet
Cost: $10.3 million
Photo: Mark Herboth Photography

E ST. LOUIS PUBLIC LIBRARY—CENTRAL LIBRARY
This 100-year-old grand Beaux-Arts library, a St. Louis cultural landmark, was in need of a transformative restoration that would increase public access and modernize it for the 21st century. On the interior, the centrally located hall is surrounded by five wings, four dedicated to public reading rooms and the fifth, the north wing, to a multistory book depository closed to the public. The transformation of the north wing brought the library into the next century. Old stacks were removed, and a new “building within a building” was inserted. A new multistory public atrium provides an accessible and welcoming entry.
Cannon Design
Size: 187,500 square feet
Cost: $70 million
Photo: Timothy Hursley

F OAK FOREST NEIGHBORHOOD LIBRARY, HOUSTON
Built in 1961, this modern brick-and-glass structure needed renovations to meet the standards of the Houston Public Library system and the needs of the surrounding neighborhood. The original building’s restored green-tile mosaic still graces the parking entry area on the north, but a tree-shaded second entrance and an outdoor reading room framed by new adult and teen areas on the west were added. The mosaic and the globe light canopy of the old circulation desk were restored to create a toddler-sized reading nook. Facilities, furnishings, and technology were updated to serve all age groups, as well.
Natalye Appel + Associates Architects/AWI/James Ray Architects
Size: 12,000 square feet
Cost: $3.5 million
Photo: Light Sensible
Melding Minds to Make a Library

Successful libraries are designed collaboratively.

Architects build for practical purposes. Ideally, they build in a specific setting for the people in that setting. Successful design comes from understanding the objectives of the building's owners, and collaborating with them to create a facility that reflects its objectives.
The best libraries are designed using such an approach. It’s a process that requires listening to every voice with a stake in the outcome and establishing a clear set of goals and paths to meet them.

The first step is to form a building committee that represents various constituencies: political representatives of the wider community, the library board of trustees, the professional staff, frequent library users, interested citizens, and donors. All have vital ideas and opinions.

The design process involves analyzing the physical and cultural setting for the building, preparing a program of space requirements, establishing clear objectives for the project, and preparing and critiquing a series of alternative design approaches. Other considerations enter into the process: regulations, the budget, the schedule. Often, additional presentations are made to separate constituencies, including the town board, the planning board, and the architectural review board. The process is repetitive—alternatives are repeatedly developed and evaluated until consensus is achieved—but necessary to ensure that all parties’ issues and concerns are addressed.

The collaboration is time consuming and rigorous. It moves forward, but its iterative nature may slow it down. This is to be expected and is ultimately worthwhile. As the project evolves, the architect, the building committee, and outside constituencies gradually move to a plan that satisfies everyone.

This process works. When successful, the library belongs in its physical and cultural settings, reflects the objectives and values of the various constituencies linked to the project, and is integral to the community and the citizens for which it was designed.

Building Darien Library
Designing Darien (Conn.) Library was an intensely collaborative process. In addition to an active building committee, the library board of trustees, library administration and staff, Friends of the Library, donors, town selectmen, planning board, and architectural review board were all involved. After many discussions, stakeholders decided upon a series of objectives:

- Design the interior spaces to be timeless, modernist, and transparent, so that many activities within the library can be seen simultaneously;
- Create a sustainable building to serve as an example of green architecture for the community.

Using these points as guides, I created a diagram of a four-story building. "Main Street" is at the ground level. It's a place for public interaction, community events, and casual socializing. At the lower level is the "power library," which focuses on digital media and digital instruction. The "traditional library," a quiet place, is located on the second floor and mezzanine. The four levels are connected by an open glass atrium with a stairway and a gallery that overlooks a reading courtyard.

A successful collaboration requires discipline and often sacrifice. This is best demonstrated by a series of ideas that our team developed for the four-story atrium. I had in mind that we would create an interconnected space behind the glass wall that faces the reading courtyard. The formal staircase would project into the courtyard enclosed in a masonry stair-tower.

Alan Gray, then–assistant director of operations at Darien, objected to the proposed stair tower because it reduced transparency and produced a more enclosed feeling. We discussed this back and forth for two or three weeks, evaluating various schemes. Eventually, his point of view prevailed. An open stair was placed within the atrium because that design solution better supported the concept of transparency, which was one of our primary objectives. This anecdote shows how the owner and various constituencies are empowered by establishing clear and understandable design objectives. We found common ground by working collaboratively.

Darien Library opened to the public on January 10, 2009, on "Darien Library Day," as proclaimed by the state of Connecticut. The finished building is aesthetically beautiful, easy to navigate, accessible to all patrons, automated to the greatest extent possible, and Gold LEED certified. And it would not have been possible without all voices involved in the project coming together for the common good.

PETER GISOLFI, AIA, ASLA, LEED AP, is a licensed architect and landscape architect, and chairman and professor at the Spitzer School of Architecture at the City College of the City University of New York. He is also founding and senior partner of Peter Gisolfi Associates, Architects and Landscape Architects, LLP, in Hastings-on-Hudson, New York, and New Haven, Connecticut.
Local News

Should libraries ban pornography on public computers?

Q13 Fox News

September 9, 2013
by Steve Higgins
Reporter

Library patrons complain over those viewing porn
Comments (6)


SEATTLE — There’s a controversy brewing in the Seattle Public Library system after a local mom says she saw someone watching pornography on a library computer. And it turns out there’s nothing she could do to stop it.

Well, the library says this is really an issue about censorship and they’re not going to stop their customers from accessing information that is protected by the U.S. Constitution.

Still, some parents were shocked to hear that just about anybody can look at porn — right out in the open.

“It’s just shocking, I feel like I can’t really do anything,” said patron Ebony Booker.

Nearly a dozen computers sit out in the open at the Beacon Hill library branch. The desktops are available for anyone to cruise the Web, look for a job, or even look at porn.

“I’m sorry, somebody looking at porn, that should be something you do at home alone,” said patron Fredrick Reid.
The latest complaint was made at the Beacon Hill branch. The mom said she and her kids won’t come back until the computers are moved into a separate room away from the rest of the library.

The computers in the nearby children’s section cannot access adult content from the Internet; filtering software keeps the stuff from popping up. But the other computers don’t use any censoring software at all, and that concerns some parents.

“I just feel like it’s not very safe and I wouldn’t want my child to come across that information without my approval,” added Booker.

But not everyone is upset over this issue. Some people say there are legitimate, academic reasons to look up pornography on a public computer.

“A UW student was doing a paper on feminism and pornography, and they needed to do research for a dissertation,” said patron Zoe Wilson.

Seattle Public Libraries said they will call police if they suspect someone is looking at child porn or anything else that’s illegal.

In fact, in August, police arrested a 61-year-old man who they say was looking at child porn inside the Monroe library. The man was charged with viewing child pornography.

But most of the library patrons in Seattle agreed that policing the Internet should be a job for parents, not library employees.

“Libraries are not babysitters,” said Erin Okuno. “When I bring my kids here, I need to know where they are at all times and what they are looking at. Whether it’s a book, whether it’s a computer, whether it’s a magazine, until they’re old enough to make those decisions, I’m still their parent. “

And it’s not just the computers — the Wi-Fi is also free to the public without censorship.

And just like the library doesn’t censor what books people check out, they won’t censor what Web sites people look at either.

(JOSHUA TRUJILLO / SEATTLEPI.COM) A computer is shown at the Lake City branch of the Seattle Public Library in 2012, when a woman complained about a man openly watching porn on a computer. The librarian responded that it was not the responsibility of staffers to monitor the computers.

When is watching graphic sex movies in public, or near kids, an acceptable thing to do? Let’s see.

You can’t legally show porn in your house that can be seen from a park or playground. You of course can’t show it to kids. You can’t watch it at work, unless you want to get fired or sued. And you can’t watch on your iPad on a plane, or the gym, without expecting some outraged person to tell you to shut it down.

But in Seattle, there’s one place where you can watch porn in public, in view of others, and around kids, and no one official will bother you: The library. To be specific, the 27 branches of the Seattle Public Library.

A year after online porn in the library erupted into a small tempest, the issue remains at an impasse. The latest grievance comes from Julie Vanderburg, who said she saw a man watching porn on a public computer in the Beacon Hill library a few weeks ago.

Vanderburg reported the man to a librarian, who simply said Vanderburg could “fill out a form.” When Vanderburg asked the man to stop, library staffers became angry with her, she said.

“One of the librarians, he said, ‘Please don’t ever approach another patron again,’” Vanderburg said last week. She said her kids, ages 6 and 7, had been about 10 feet away from the man, but had not seen what was on his screen.
Porn complaint echoes similar one in Lake City library

“I’m not anti-porn. I’m not a church lady,” said Vanderburg, who no longer wants to go to the Beacon Hill library, her neighborhood branch. “He should have a private room. The environment becomes very uncomfortable.”

Essentially, nothing’s changed since last year, when another woman echoed a similar complaint in the Lake City library. In that incident, the woman’s 10-year-old daughter had inadvertently seen a hard-core porn movie that a man was watching on a library computer. The woman’s complaint led to widespread media attention.

A year later, the Seattle Public Library still holds to its creed of unfettered access to constitutionally protected material. That includes the public display of such material, which includes Internet porn.

“(P)atrons have a right to view constitutionally-protected information no matter where they are in the building, and the Library does not censor what a patron reads or views on a computer,” Library spokeswoman Andra Addison said in an email to Vanderburg last week.

But she acknowledged the need to keep “inappropriate material from children.”

Library computers have “privacy screens” to help prevent “inadvertent viewing.” Adult computers are stationed away from children’s areas, with screens facing less busy areas. Kid computers have content filters. Parents says those solutions aren’t fool-proof.

But the Library, which doesn’t want to create “private” computer rooms, says parental supervision is the “best way to protect children.”

Potholes and stinky feet are not OK, but public porn watching is

That’s true, says Vanderburg. But she likened library porn to potholes. When someone complains about potholes, a nuisance and public-safety risk, the city fixes them, she said. But when someone complains about public porn – a risk for kids and often grounds for a hostile environment in a workplace – the city looks the other way, she said.

“If a child tripped on a broken piece of sidewalk on Beacon Hill, or a car blew a tire because of a pothole, the city of Seattle would fix it,” Vanderburg said.

The Library also has a long list of rules of things you can’t do in its buildings, to ensure “comfort and safety” of staff and patrons. You can’t eat, sleep, look like you’re sleeping, be barefoot, be too stinky, or talk too loudly. But you can watch graphic porn on a public computer in front of kids, which has made female patrons uncomfortable over the years.

That’s prompted well-known child advocate Jon Gould to recently urge the Library for a “more child- and family-friendly policy.” Gould is the deputy director of the Children’s Alliance, but wrote the library last week as a private citizen and Seattle parent.
“Good options exist to meet the needs of all patrons,” he said. “Including those (kids) who don’t have a voice or choice.”

So what should the Seattle Public Library do?

Libraries are vital for an informed society, and any rein on the flow of information threatens their foundation. Complaints about porn watching also represent a fraction of the more than 14 million people who visited the library in 2012.

Last year, there were about 70 complaints of public porn watching, most in February of 2012, in the wake of the Lake City incident. This year, there have been four complaints.

Vote in our poll and tell us what you think the library should do:

How should the Library handle public porn watching? (Choose all that apply)

- It should ban it.
- It should allow it, but create private computer rooms.
- It should warn people that images of naked people having sex may be visible on public computers.
- The policy is fine as it is; offended people need to get over it.

View Results

For more information on this topic, see previous Seattletpi.com stories here:

- [Seattle libraries: No sleeping or eating allowed, but porn-watching OK](#)
- [Seattle library lets man watch porn, despite complaint](#)
- [State Supreme Court: Libraries can block Internet porn](#)

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Categories: Local News

Michael Johnson · Seattle University
Libraries have historically been against censorship. The problem is that someone has to define what is considered "porn" and everyone's opinion is different. After college, I had a fantasy of
DPL CONNECT: DENVER'S VERY OWN PEDAL-POWERED MOBILE LIBRARY!

Submitted by Zac on August 5, 2013 - 10:55am
in Library News Book Bike community DPL Connect outreach

Over the past few months, the Denver Public Library has been developing a new service to connect the library to the community outside of our physical locations.

We wanted to literally take our services to the streets and to meet you where you are -- in the neighborhoods, at community events, in the parks, the coffee shops, the skate parks, concerts, farmer's markets and more.

We are super stoked to introduce what we came up with: DPL Connect -- a pedal-powered mobile library and wi-fi hotspot.

DPL Connect will make its inaugural ride at its official launch on Wednesday, August 7 on 16th Street Mall. Our tricked-out trike will provide free wireless internet access and will be stocked with a rotating collection of books tailored to the bike's location (i.e. cookbooks and urban farming for farmer's markets, bike repair and Denver maps for bike trails, etc).

The librarian riding DPL Connect, armed with a tablet and an internet connection, will provide traditional library services, helping customers with digital downloads (eBooks, audio books, and digital magazines), offering reading suggestions, assisting with research and registering new customers for library cards. Down the road, we're working on DPL Connect's ability to operate as a full-service library, complete with the ability to check out materials. In the meantime, we'll be giving away featured books for people to read and hopefully share with others!

Schedule

August 7, 4:30 - 6:30 p.m. | 16th Street Mall Garden Block (between Curtis and Champa)
August 8, 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Civic Center Eats (amongst the food trucks - Broadway & 14th Street)

August 11, 10 a.m. - 12:30 p.m | VIVA Streets (Berkeley Regis Neighborhood - Tennyson St. & W 46th Ave.)

September 7, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m. | Tour de Fat (City Park)

September 13, 6:30 - 8:30 p.m | Bike-in Movie series at Civic Center Park

Visit us at these stops or follow us on Twitter / like us on Facebook for updates on the bike's whereabouts. And keep your eyes peeled throughout September as we plan to hit up more parks and farmer's markets around Denver. See you there!

DPL CONNECT is a pilot program conceptualized and executed by staff members Zac Laugheed and Jen Morris, winners of the Library’s out-of-the box idea contest. The customized trike was designed in partnership with Joe Crennen, a local custom bike builder who works out of his shop Pedal Positive.

ShareThis
Zac’s blog

Comments

Submitted by Ariel Farrar on August 9, 2013 - 8:22am.

This is fantastic.

((seething envy from New Orleans Public Library -- this would work so well here!!))

xo!

reply

Submitted by Joe C on August 6, 2013 - 8:22am.

Looks like the greatest bookbike to ever hit Denver! It's going to put Denver Public Library on the bike map.

reply

Submitted by Robin F. on August 5, 2013 - 7:26pm.

Zac, Thanks to you and Jen for bringing this extraordinary idea to life for the people of Denver. Way to go!!

reply

Submitted by Steven C on August 5, 2013 - 12:45pm.

You all are great! Love my libraries.

reply

Post new comment

Your name:
Return on Investment Study

Library District Residents receive as much as 400% Return on Investment

A new independent study recently revealed as much as a 400% return on taxpayers' investment for local Santa Clara County Library District (SCCLD) residents. Estimating the value of Library services to its patrons to be between $83 million and $171.8 million, the study looked at quantifiable services for which the value can be easily measured. These services include the borrowing of materials, ongoing children’s programs, online database searches, and many more. When the value of services was divided by SCCLD’s annual operating expenditures, the results show that for every dollar spent the community receives $2.50 - $5.17 in direct benefits.

In addition to analysis of these quantifiable benefits, the study also included interviews with key community stakeholders who identified numerous broader community benefits, such as increased success in school, career, and life resulting from early literacy efforts, as well as improved health outcomes and reduced medical costs to individuals and society. Adding these intangible benefits to the $2.50 to $5.17 per dollar return results in an even higher return on investment.

The study identified five key areas of community benefit that encompassed both the quantifiable and non-quantifiable aspects of library services:

- Enhancing Early Literacy and Youth Education
- Promoting Lifelong Learning and Personal Growth
- Building and Bridging Diverse Communities
- Providing Access to Information and Technology for All
- Supporting Personal Recreation and Quality of Life

Funded by the Cupertino Library Foundation and conducted by BERK, a Seattle based research/consulting firm, the executive summary of the report can be found HERE.
A Return on Investment Study of Salt Lake County Library Services
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Public libraries are at the crossroads of history. Rapid technological advances and easy access to information via the Internet have challenged the traditional library model. Moreover, the recent economic downturn has forced state and municipal governments to reduce funding for many public services, including public libraries. Libraries, like many other units of local government, compete for scarce resources and face increasing requirements to demonstrate their value to the taxpayers. Traditionally, libraries have used output measures such as circulation trends, gate count, and library use statistics to justify library funding. These measures alone may not be enough to capture the perceived value of the public libraries. It becomes a challenge to justify libraries’ requests for funding especially when municipal governments are making across the board spending cuts. Many state and local libraries have undertaken return on investment (ROI) studies to emphasize their value to the public and policymakers. For public libraries, ROI means the return on the tax dollar investment in their libraries. Several libraries have used ROI studies to help quantify the value communities received for every dollar they invested in their libraries.

To calculate ROI for Salt Lake County Library Services (SLCoLibrary), a mixed-methods approach was used to quantify the value of the public libraries in Salt Lake County. In the first phase of the study, an online survey was fielded to collect data from library patrons. The survey used a contingent valuation method by asking specific questions about patrons’ library use and their willingness to pay for similar services in the absence of a library. The contingent valuation is defined as “a set of techniques and hypothetical institutions that can be used to elicit for a non-market good (Ralston et al. p. 116).” In the second phase of the study, 2012 library use statistics were obtained from SLCoLibrary to determine a monetary equivalent of the services provided by the library. Finally, an indirect economic impact analysis was performed using library expenditures in 2012. Indirect economic impact analysis measures indirect benefits of a library on the local economy through library expenditures such as employee wages, books, supplies, and construction activities.

The mixed-method approach is likely to capture majority characteristics of a library. Although it is the most comprehensive strategy available, some additional positive externalities such as the impact on literacy rate, value of the knowledge information acquired using a library, or books read without a check out remain hard to determine in any ROI study.
KEY FINDINGS

• The County taxpayers’ combined return on investment is between $5.47 and $6.07 for every $1.00 invested in library services.

• SLCоЛibrary returns between $3.09 and $3.69 in direct benefits for every $1.00 invested by the Salt Lake County taxpayers.

• SLCоЛibrary returns $1.57 in indirect benefits to the local economy for every $1.00 expended.

• Value added to the local economy was $0.81 for every $1.00 expended due to one-time construction projects undertaken by SLCоЛibrary.

• An average SLCоЛibrary cardholder saves $4,581 annually by not having to purchase similar material in the marketplace.

• Overall, SLCоЛibrary provides goods and services worth $121 million in measurable direct benefits to the County residents.

• The majority of survey respondents are satisfied (24.36%) or very satisfied (71.88%) with library services; combined satisfaction rate is 96.24%.

Figure 1. Salt Lake County Library Services’ Direct, Indirect and One-time Return on Investment
What’s Happening

- Letter: WARNING – Mature Content, Possible Offensive
- Education spending slow to recover from recession
- Holiday Shoppers Will Help Tablets Outsell PCs for the First Time
- Foundation for Early Learning Launches Innovative Granting Program, invests in Early Learning STEM Projects
- Growing Young Minds
Letter: WARNING – Mature Content, Possibly Offensive
David Anderson | September 19, 2013 | 1 Comment | Suburban Times | By David Anderson

Recent articles posted here in this publication provided links to national headlines concerning a furor over the explicitly sexual nature of two books that are suggested reading for 11th graders in all 295 school districts in Washington as well as 44 other states, three territories and the District of Columbia all of which have adopted the Common Core State Standards (CCSS) – “a set of consistent state standards for proficiency in English-language arts and mathematics for grades K-12.”

The two books in question are “The Bluest Eye” and “Dreaming in Cuban” hyperlinked to their respective articles.

Concern has been expressed by leaders within the Clover Park School District (CPSD) that readers here may have been misled into believing that these books were “required” reading which they are not.

Nor was that ever alleged.

“The Bluest Eye” and “Dreaming in Cuban” are suggested texts, as has always been maintained.

What should concern everyone – readers of this publication, citizens, parents, teachers, school administrators, etc. not only here locally, but also state-wide and nationally – is why these two books are suggested reading for 11th graders at all.

How is it that descriptions of “pedophilia, incest and graphic sex” and exposing “impressionable teenagers to illicit sex, sensual descriptions of nakedness and foreplay, violence toward women, anal sex, and total disrespect for the individual and raunchy language” – as revealed in excerpts from these two texts – can find their way into the Common Core Standards in the first place?

“The Bluest Eye” and “Dreaming in Cuban” are among books to be found in Appendix B of the Common Core State Standards where the section on “publisher’s criteria” introduces them as examples “of high-quality literary” works. As if for emphasis this commendation is repeated: “The quality of the suggested texts is high — they are worth reading closely and exhibit exceptional craft and thought or provide useful information.”

Protestations of the Clover Park School District to the contrary, there is no good-better-best evaluation in Appendix B of the books that are suggested reading. There are no grade equivalents, there are no value judgments made, nor are the suggested texts placed in low, medium and high categories as if to recommend one over against another.

And, most bothersome of all, there are no disclaimers.

And yet most invariably the national headlines that have virally excoriated the offending and controversial excerpted passages from these two books on Common Core’s Standard List for suggested reading by 11th graders in public schools across America have a similar disclaimer preceding what is about to be read warning of “mature content that may be offensive to some readers.”

One reviewing website went so far, given the adult content, as to require verification that the reader was over the age over 18 in order to peruse the offending passages.

Not so Common Core Standards that is suggesting these books to 16-17 year olds.

Common Care does not provide a disclaimer; does not mention anything related to the sexually explicit material that the books do in fact contain; does not provide a minimal rationale that addresses potential
problems with the work as recommended by the National Council of Teachers of English (NCTE) thus enabling parents to proactively—not retroactively—respond, and consequently does not suggest that an informed parental consent be considered prior to usage of the potentially offensive language to be found in the books that Common Core Standards are offering children—and 13-17 year olds are children—to read.

Common Core should have acknowledged—but did not; and should have provided, but did not—specific, clearly documented, and potentially objectionable material.

"At an absolute minimum there should be a clear, upfront, informed disclosure."

But there was not.

And the fact that there were none of these disclaimer-related caveats is at best questionable, at worst deceitful.

And it is this—this lack of transparency on the part of those responsible for Common Core Standards—that should have every single school board member and administrator, locally and nationally, and parents, up in arms.

Why should a citizen, who has brought these concerns to the attention of the Office of Superintendent of Public Instruction (OSPI), be left himself to challenge the leadership of every school district in this state—all 295 of them for whom contacts were given him by OSPI—with their responsibility, when far more powerfully as representative of their respective communities, each school district individually and collectively should by virtue of the combined weight of their positions chastise Common Core for allowing vulgar obscenities to pass for “high quality literature”?

Whereas the State Superintendent of Schools in Arizona removed both the books which have come to his attention (“Dreaming in Cuban” and “The Bluest Eye”), the school districts in our state of Washington are left to fend for themselves.

So have at it.

Simply because an individual school district opts not to purchase these suggested books for required reading—if they are even aware of the offending and controversial nature which few if any book reviews provide—does not absolve them from a greater responsibility to fellow educators elsewhere, let alone students and parents in their own district by taking a proactive board position in support of virtue, respect, decency, transparency, etc. and thus declaring and committing themselves to a most-honorable position that upholds the highest in educational standards.

“A little yeast works through the whole batch of dough,” is a proverb that here relates.

“Un-chastity, if once tolerated especially amid so licentious a population, would be but too likely to impregnate baetfully the sentiment of the whole community.”

Since, after all, “the Standards are intended to be a living work: as new and better evidence emerges, the Standards will be revised accordingly” as states Common Core, then: school districts and parents, let your voice be heard.

Comments (1)

1. Patricia Mannie says:

September 20, 2013 at 6:24 am | Thank you for sharing this VERY important information, David. We need to be aware of this horrific problem with Common Core.
Education spending slow to recover from recession

The News Tribune

Published: September 18, 2013 |2013-09-18T07:22:00Z| RICHARD S. DAVIS

By RICHARD S. DAVIS — Contributing Writer

Most states have yet to restore per-pupil public school spending to pre-recession levels. The liberal Center on Budget and Policy Priorities (CBPP) recently reported some startling numbers. Compared with 2008, inflation-adjusted spending per student for the 2014 fiscal year is down 23 percent in Oklahoma, down 20 percent in Alabama and 17 percent in Arizona. Energy-rich North Dakota posts a 28 percent increase.

Washington comes in at less than 1 percent below the 2008 mark ($35 less per pupil), comparing relatively favorably. Tweak the inflation measure, and we could climb into positive territory. Thirty-two states do worse. And our state legislature made substantial progress in the last session.

The CBPP report arrives just months before the state Supreme Court grades the Legislature’s progress toward meeting the court’s mandated increase in basic education spending, known as the McCleary decision. Last month lawmakers turned in their second annual report.

Next, education advocates will submit their evaluation of legislative efforts. They’ve already indicated their displeasure. Then the court will deliver its judgment.

An attorney for the education groups that filed the original suit told the Associated Press, “I think they (lawmakers) are doing what they think they can get away with.”

They did more than that. After some initial partisan wrangling over what to emphasize, the eight-member legislative committee charged with reporting to the court found a lot to like about its performance. Lawmakers increased basic education funding by $982 million in the 2013-15 operating budget, an 11.4 percent increase from the previous biennium. That includes new funding for full-day kindergarten, pupil transportation, reduced class sizes for kindergarten and first grade, and increased funding for general operations.

It didn’t come easily; budget negotiations ran long and hot. And it wasn’t pretty, but the outcome was pretty good, if not sustainable. Lawmakers acknowledged as much, saying they relied on “various fund transfers and revenue redirection.” More simply, they resorted to the usual gimmicks.

The bump in basic education funding also incorporated some “savings and reductions” in non-basic education, including suspending Initiative 732, a voter-approved but unfunded cost-of-living increase for teachers. Legislators would be wise to repeal it and concentrate on comprehensive funding reform.

Superintendent of Public Instruction Randy Dorn joins the critics saying the Legislature didn’t do enough last session. In a statement, he notes McCleary requires a $4 billion increase in education spending by 2018 and argues that acceptable progress calls for a boost of $1.4 billion in the 2013-15 budget. He wants another $400 million in next year’s supplemental budget.
We can quibble about the numbers — there’s no magic in them — but the Legislature has accepted them. And the court bought into them, saying lawmakers must make steady progress toward the $4 billion increase to meet the McCleary standard.

Gimmicks won’t do the trick. The court requires the state to find a way to fund basic education with “regular and dependable tax sources.” That’s murky, but it’s clear that growth in the current revenue base will not provide enough new money to hit the 2018 target.

It’s unlikely the September official revenue forecast will add more than $125 million in the current biennium. Dorn won’t get his $400 million.

So maybe it’s time to resurrect a discarded idea.

CBPP looks only at state funding, which is a much larger share of public school spending here than elsewhere. Most states rely more on local property taxes than we do. That’s where we have an opportunity.

A casualty of the 2012 gubernatorial campaign not on the ballot was an idea called the “property tax swap.” The swap had bipartisan origins, with Rep. Ross Hunter, D-Medina, and then-Sen. Joe Zarelli, R-Ridgefield, independently concluding that raising the state property tax while resetting local levies could significantly boost state aid and satisfy the demand for “regular and dependable” revenues.

Gubernatorial candidate Jay Inslee panned the idea. After he won the election, interest faded. The issue is politically sensitive. Property taxes in Washington are comparatively low, but still unpopular. How much new money would go to education depends on how much levy capacity is transferred to the state and where the local levy is reset.

It’s complicated, which means it’s difficult. But it still looks like lawmakers’ best vehicle for satisfying McCleary.

Bainbridge Island resident Richard S. Davis is president of the Washington Research Council. Email him at rsdavis@simeonpartners.com.

Read more here: http://www.thenewstribune.com/2013/09/18/2790983/education-spending-slow-to-recover.html#storylink=cpy
Holiday Shoppers Will Help Tablets Oust PCs for the First Time

By Joshua Brustein | BusinessWeek – Mon, Sep 16, 2013 11:12 AM EDT

Associated Press - FILE - This March 16, 2012 file photo shows a customer talking with an Apple worker, in blue, inside an Apple store on the first day of the launch of the new iPad, in San Francisco. Worldwide shipments of tablet computers slowed down in the second quarter because Apple didn’t release a new model of its trend-setting iPad, research firm IDC said Monday, Aug. 5, 2013. Shipments totaled 45.1 million units in the April-June period of 2013, down nearly 10 percent from the first three months of the year. (AP Photo/Paul Sakuma, File)

The turning point in the consumer shift from personal computers to tablets will take place underneath Christmas trees and near the glow of menorah candles. Worldwide tablet shipments will surpass those of PCs for the first time during the fourth quarter, according to a new report by IDC, making holiday-season shopping something of the beginning of a gradual dethroning of desktops and laptops.

For the year as a whole, PC shipments will still outnumber tablets, and IDC projects that tablets will remain the worldwide underdog on an annual basis until the end of 2015. But during this shift, tablets will become the new PCs in more ways than one, with a new computer format rising almost immediately to eat away at sales: big-screen smartphones. These so-called “phablets” will rapidly begin to lure people away from the lower end of the tablet market, slowing down growth in the industry. “The device world has seen several iterations of cannibalization impacting different categories, with the last few years focused on tablets cannibalizing PC sales,” says IDC’s Bob O’Donnell. “Over the next 12 to 18 months, however, we believe the larger smartphones … will start to eat into the smaller-size tablet market.”

At the same time, high-end smartphones will lose ground to cheaper, more basic smartphones, especially in developing markets. In the short term, the shift in consumption stands to benefit companies that do well in mobile devices at the expense of those that had made their names producing PCs—hence Microsoft’s purchase of Nokia and Michael Dell’s move to take his company private. But the relentless march to cheaper computing devices will mean a tighter future for device makers. IDC says the overall connected-device market, which includes PCs, tablets, and smartphones, will grow 27.8 percent year over year in 2013. But those shipments add up to only 10.6 percent more revenue for the industry. By 2017, IDC says revenue will grow only 3.1 percent and the price of an average device cost will fall to $323, down from $423 in 2012.

Of course, each tablet, phablet, and smartphone can serve as a conduit for digital-media consumption, putting companies that also control mobile operating systems in an enviable position. Primarily, this means Apple’s iOS and Google’s Android. The shift in hardware explains the intense focus on Apple releasing a less expensive version of its iPhone, the 5C, even as many observers registered surprised that the cheap version still costs so much. IDC expects phones priced higher than $400 to make up 28.1 percent of the overall market by 2017, down from 39.1 percent this year. But Apple priced its new, cheap 16GB phone at the equivalent of $735 in China, which the company expects to be its biggest market in years to come.
Foundation for Early Learning Launches Innovative Granting Program, Invests in Early Learning STEM Projects Throughout Washington State

The Seattle PI

PRWeb

Published 12:00 pm, Monday, September 9, 2013

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*Foundation for Early Learning launches its first STEM cohort by investing in early learning STEM projects in Washington State.*

Seattle, WA (PRWEB) September 09, 2013

The Foundation for Early Learning announced today that five Washington State organizations, have been selected to form the first of three cohorts under the Foundation's newly restructured, thematic granting strategy designed to foster innovation by service providers in the early learning field. Each organization will receive $35,000 to implement STEM related projects in their communities. “We are so pleased to be launching this new initiative with such an outstanding array of projects representing communities from across the state,” said Mark Crawford, FEL Executive Director. “Each project represents a creative approach to improving STEM readiness and the cohort structure will create tremendous opportunities for collaboration by the grantees as well.”

The Discoveries from the Field Fund supports community-driven themes that expand the community’s own understanding of early learning. The pilot funding program, launched earlier this year, focused on STEM, (science, technology, engineering and math) as its first theme. Research indicates that math skills, in particular, serve as a better predictor of long-term school success than literacy. According to Washington’s Inventory of Developing Skills (WaKIDS) data, fewer than half of children in Washington State are entering kindergarten prepared in math.

Funded organizations include the Kittitas Early Learning Coalition, which plans to host 12 culturally relevant STEM early learning events throughout their county, such as integrating dance and movement to teach its young children about wind and energy given that the area is famous for its windmills. Also selected is La Casa Hogar in Yakima which is seeking funding to incorporate STEM into its music program by first training parents and encouraging them incorporate activities at school and at home. Other grantees include: Woodland Park Zoo, Friends of the Everett Public Library, and the Chinese Information Services Center.
The cohort model was chosen to promote collaboration among peer organizations, with the intent of strengthening projects and securing more effective outcomes for early learning in Washington State. Grantees are expected to meet on a regular basis and to work in concert, benefiting from the Foundation's decade-long tradition of working with communities. Each organization will be also eligible for a second round of funding based on outcome measurability and a third round of funding based on project scalability with the potential of receiving a total $85,000. We look forward to building healthy and vibrant new partnerships," said Susan Yang, the Foundation's Program Officer. "This is the type of collaboration that can benefit the field for years to come."

The thematic, cohort-based funding strategy will also allow the Foundation to invest in the early learning community, broadly, deeply and systematically in support of its mission of “finding and fostering kindergarten readiness opportunities in Washington State.” Inquiry and exploration are foundations for math and science, and are also the foundations for early learning in general.

About the Foundation for Early Learning
Founded in 2000, the Foundation for Early Learning grew out of Gov. Locke’s Commission on Early Learning and started with a generous grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Since then, it has played a key role in developing community-based initiatives and coalitions. In support of its mission of “finding and fostering opportunities for kindergarten readiness,” the Foundation also invested heavily in early learning services and networks. Earlier this year, the Foundation launched a new strategic vision, focusing its funding and outreach efforts on specific thematic content areas by investing in services and initiatives, originated in and by the early learning field, that improve young children’s lives. In May, the Foundation announced Science, Technology, Math and Engineering (STEM) as its first theme and began a competitive process to award grants to community-based organizations. http://www.earlylearning.org

For the original version on PRWeb visit:
http://www.prweb.com/releases/2013/9/prweb11091035.htm

Foundation for Early Learning Launches Innovative Granting Program
The Seattle Pi
Sept. 9, 2013
Press Release

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The thematic, cohort-based funding strategy will also allow the Foundation to invest in the early learning community, broadly, deeply and systematically in support of its mission of "finding and fostering kindergarten readiness opportunities in Washington State." Inquiry and exploration are foundations for math and science, and are also the foundations for early learning in general.

About the Foundation for Early Learning
Founded in 2000, the Foundation for Early Learning grew out of Gov. Locke’s Commission on Early Learning and started with a generous grant from the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation. Since then, it has played a key role in developing community-based initiatives and coalitions. In support of its mission of “finding and fostering opportunities for kindergarten readiness,” the Foundation also invested heavily in early learning services and networks. Earlier this year, the Foundation launched a new strategic vision, focusing its funding and outreach efforts on specific thematic content areas by investing in services and initiatives, originated in and by the early learning field, that improve young children’s lives. In May, the Foundation announced Science, Technology, Math and Engineering (STEM) as its first theme and began a competitive process to award grants to community-based organizations. http://www.earlylearning.org

For the original version on PRWeb visit: http://www.prweb.com/releases/2013/9/prweb11091035.htm
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY: CALL TO ACTION

Growing Young Minds: How Museums and Libraries Create Lifelong Learners calls upon policy makers and practitioners to fully use the capacity of libraries and museums to close knowledge and opportunity gaps and give all children a strong start in learning. Libraries and museums can play a significant role in early learning for all children. As our nation commits to early learning as a national priority essential to our economic and civic future, it is time to become more intentional about engaging these vital community resources. Libraries and museums reach millions of parents and children each year. They are trusted, welcoming places where children make discoveries, deepen common interests, expand words and knowledge, and connect their natural curiosity to the wider world. Neuroscientists tell us that the type of learning that occurs in these institutions—self-directed, experiential, content-rich—promotes executive function skills that can shape a child’s success in school and life. These experiences and interactions build brains and fuel a love of learning.

Parents know this and flock to museums and libraries not only to support their child’s learning but also to bolster their important role as their child’s first teacher. The Pew Research Center’s recent report, Parents’ and Children’s Special Relationship with Reading and Libraries, documents that an overwhelming percentage of parents of young children, especially those with annual incomes under $50,000, believe that libraries are “very important” for their children, and are eager for more and varied family library services.¹
We have to work to ensure that more children and parents, especially those at low socioeconomic levels, can tap into the learning resources of libraries and museums. According to a recent Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS) analysis, only 36 percent of children with the lowest socioeconomic status visited libraries in their kindergarten year, compared to 66 percent of children in the highest; for museums, these figures are 43 percent versus 65 percent. Recent research points out that the disparity of access to learning resources between children of affluence and those in poverty has created a knowledge gap with serious implications for students’ economic prosperity and social mobility.

These data underscore the urgency of this report. Libraries—public and school—and museums of all types—art, history, and children’s museums; science centers; nature centers and gardens; aquaria; and zoos—form an extensive, diverse system of informal learning that is equipped to deliver early learning resources to young children and families, especially those most in need. Yet, in too many communities, museums and libraries are not “at the table” helping to craft the policies and practices that link children and their families to early learning resources.

It is critical to act now to incorporate, and leverage, the well-established informal learning system of museums and libraries as an essential component of our nation’s early learning network. It is a wise use of limited fiscal and human resources that will help our nation develop the potential of every child and result in a stronger economy, a more effective workforce, and a nation of learners. With an increased focus on their capacity, these institutions can be more essential early learning partners at the community, state, and national levels.

IMLS supports many of the programs and case studies highlighted in Growing Young Minds. This federal agency has a long history of identifying and funding innovative approaches that put young learners at the center and help social, civic, cultural, and educational organizations work in partnership in communities and at the state and national levels.

With this report, IMLS is deepening and expanding its commitment to the youngest and most at-risk children in the United States to assure that libraries and museums reach underserved children and provide opportunities that can make a difference and last a lifetime.
As We Work Together to Meet Our Nation’s Early Learning Challenges, Museums and Libraries Are:

- Community anchors that provide safe and accessible civic spaces promoting lifelong learning, cultural enrichment, and civic engagement, especially for underserved and vulnerable families and their children.

- Connectors that bridge the generations and bring children, their parents, and their families together in fun and nonthreatening settings that build mutual knowledge, skills, and self-efficacy.

- Innovative learning specialists that create exhibits, outreach programs, and environments that invite hands-on experiential learning.

- Stewards of rich cultural, scientific, environmental, and historical heritages, which offer robust collections of resources appealing to all disciplines and levels of learners.

- Digital hubs that provide guidance for navigating new technologies and identify trusted online resources to help close the digital divide for all children, their parents, and caregivers.
10 WAYS
MUSEUMS AND LIBRARIES SUPPORT EARLY LEARNING EFFORTS

There are 10 key ways in which museums and libraries are currently supporting communities’ efforts to develop a strong start for young children’s learning.

1. Increasing high-quality early learning experiences. Libraries and museums play a particularly critical role for parents and providers caring for children in home-based programs. For many poor and vulnerable children, they function as community “touch points,” creating engaging pathways into knowledge- and skill-building.

2. Engaging and supporting families as their child’s first teachers. As trusted community anchors, museums and libraries are natural and safe places where families can learn together and access useful resources. Parents, grandparents, and caregivers can borrow books, backpacks, and other materials for home use; learn how to actively engage in age-appropriate interactions with their children; and locate high-quality child and health care providers and other local services.

3. Supporting development of executive function and “deeper learning” skills through literacy and STEM-based experiences. Museums and libraries help lay the foundations for later learning and academic and career success, including basic literacy, reading, and STEM. They are adept “brain builders,” offering learning environments that address the important social, emotional, and cognitive aspects of learning and foster persistence, self-direction, critical thinking, and problem solving.

4. Creating seamless links across early learning and the early grades. Libraries and museums support a growing number of school-based efforts to build a coordinated set of learning experiences and effective transition practices that span the preschool years through the third grade. Many have developed curricula that scaffold increasingly advancing skills and knowledge, as well as partnerships that promote a smooth transition into kindergarten.

5. Positioning children for meeting expectations of the Common Core State Standards. Museums and libraries are stewards of cultural, scientific, historical, and environmental heritage, offering rich collections of books and objects that span all disciplines and knowledge levels. They offer exhibits, environments, and programs that foster the interest-driven, project-based learning that is emphasized in the new K-12 Common Core State Standards for Literacy and Math and the Next Generation Science Standards.
Addressing the summer slide Libraries and museums are important partners in efforts to help children sustain learning during the summer months. Museum visits increase during the summer, with many offering special programs that support continued content and skills learning. School and public libraries are community lynchpins in providing children with access to materials they need to maintain and advance their reading skills over the summer months.

Linking new digital technologies to learning With their free public access to the Internet, libraries are important community digital hubs, with expertise in promoting digital, media, and information literacy. Museums and school and public libraries are rich sources of accessible digital media, educational apps, videos, and audio- and e-books, with staff trained to help parents and youth select age-appropriate, content-based, curriculum-linked materials.

Improving family health and nutrition Museums and libraries help ensure that all families have access to needed health information and resources. Many offer developmental screenings and vaccination programs; advice and programs on nutrition, exercise, and gardening; and healthy activities for family members of all ages.

Leveraging community partnerships Libraries and museums are successfully forging strong collaborative relationships across multiple community sectors—including schools, public broadcasting, housing authorities, hospitals, family health centers, municipal governments, corporations, and universities—to map and address gaps in service provision and programs.

Adding capacity to early learning networks State library administrative agencies and, in many states, museum associations can help link libraries and museums with state-based policies and programs. They stand ready to participate actively as a growing number of states build shared seamless, outcomes-based systems of care, services, education, and family supports for young children.
RECOMMENDATIONS FOR ACTION

Libraries and museums can improve early learning outcomes, increase school readiness, and help all children, especially those most at risk, read and succeed at grade three and beyond.

Everyone has a role to play.

Federal policy makers can:
- Leverage grants that support museums and libraries as learning partners.
- Support research on the impact of informal learning.
- Invest in institutional capacity for museums and libraries.

State policy makers can:
- Recognize museums and libraries in early learning policy.
- Link museum and library services more intentionally to K–12 education.
- Incorporate museums and libraries into support for community-based initiatives.

Communities can:
- Support the roles of libraries and museums in providing quality programs and services for all children, especially those in family, friend, and neighbor care situations.
- Enhance the use of libraries and museums for vulnerable populations by addressing such resources as transportation and broadband access.
- Consider museums and libraries as community hubs where educators and parents come together to access and explore the effective use of content, collections, and technology.

Schools and Early Learning Programs can:
- Offer joint professional development to teachers, school librarians, and museum and public library staff to create a shared understanding of standards, curricula, best practice, and outcomes.
- Establish partnerships with local libraries and museums to provide programs and resources that support new expectations for building content knowledge, including school readiness and the P–K transition.
- Fully engage school librarians as important learning and literacy resources.

Museums and libraries can:
- Establish strong partnerships with a wide range of community organizations.
- Provide parental and family support and access to quality programs and services, especially for vulnerable populations.
Create links to schools that support local education priorities and policies, including Common Core and other state standards.

Incorporate recent research on the brain, executive function, and learning into exhibits and programs.

Embed rigorous evaluation into program development and base programs on research and evidence.

Parents, grandparents, and caregivers can:

Visit libraries and museums with their children and join with them in discovering programs and services that support effective and enjoyable child development and learning.

Speak up to staff about the programs and services that they would like to see in their local library and museum.

Find out whether their local library or museum has resources that can help with their child’s transition to kindergarten, homework, or health and nutrition needs.

Funders can:

Endorse public-private partnerships to advance the role of museums and libraries in early learning.

Develop grant initiatives to support innovative partnerships among libraries, museums, and other community organizations.

Support an enhanced research agenda about the effectiveness of libraries and museums on the development of young children.


ENDNOTES


The Institute of Museum and Library Services is the primary source of federal support for the nation's 123,000 libraries and 17,500 museums. Our mission is to inspire libraries and museums to advance innovation, lifelong learning, and cultural and civic engagement. Our grant making, policy development, and research help libraries and museums deliver valuable services that make it possible for communities and individuals to thrive. To learn more, visit www.imls.gov and follow us on Facebook www.facebook.com/USIMLS and Twitter @US_IMLS.

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