

## Pierce County Library Index of Service for 2006

**Books, DVDs and other materials offered:**  
1.3 million or 200 miles of items

**Books, CDs and other materials checked out:** 5.6 million

**Books, CDs, DVDs and other materials, customers requested  
as holds or reserves:** 1.1 million

**Visits to 17 library branches:** 2.5 million

**Visits to Web site:** 910,000

**Cardholders:** 198,000

**Kids with library cards to use Explorer Kids' Bookmobile:** 2,000

**Books and other materials kids checked out on Explorer:** 43,000

**Programs for children:** 2,000

**Children attended programs:** 52,000

**Programs for adults:** 180

**Adults attended programs:** 15,000

**Child care providers trained to get kids ready to read:** 100

**Parents participated in workshops to get kids ready to read:** 530

### Supporters of the Library System

In 2006, **Friends of the Library groups** from 17 branches donated approximately \$33,000 for library needs. These volunteer organizations are instrumental in supporting and promoting local branch libraries.

In 2006, the **Pierce County Library Foundation** awarded \$110,509 for library programs that included the Kids' Bookmobile, summer reading program, diverse communities and outreach to homebound customers. The Foundation's active 23-member volunteer Board of Directors raises and allocates charitable gifts to expand library services beyond the scope of tax-based funding to reach underserved communities.

*The Pierce County Library System is proud to recognize the Friends and Foundation for their dedication and philanthropic support.*



Media Sponsor



**Pierce County Library System**  
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To request this document in an alternate format, call  
(253) 536-6500, ext. 136 or Washington Relay TTY 711.

## Pierce County Library System @ your service



# 2006 Annual Report to the Community

# 2006

## Annual Report to the Community

Pierce County Library System @ your service

### New in 2006

Pierce County Library pledges to bring the world of information and imagination to all people in its community.



#### 60 Year Anniversary

- Pierce County Library System celebrated 60 years of checking out books, offering free community programs, and serving hundreds of thousands of people.

#### Wi-Fi and Web site

- To better serve communities, Pierce County Library System introduced two significant new services – free Wi-Fi in branches and a redeveloped Web site.
- By the end of 2006, 10 of the Library's 17 branches had free Wi-Fi – wireless Internet connections for people with laptop computers.
- By the end of 2007, all 17 branches will have free Wi-Fi.

#### Express Checkout

- Customers now have the option of checking out books, CDs and other materials on their own at eight library branches.
- Customers check out nearly 70 percent of all items via express checkout.
- By the end of 2007, the Library plans to offer express checkout at all branches except at its smallest branch, Tillicum.

#### Audio books to download

- By the end of 2006, the Library offered 1,225 titles of audio books for people to download to their home or office computers.
- 1,731 people signed up for the service and they downloaded 7,413 audio books.

#### Borrowing with Puyallup Library

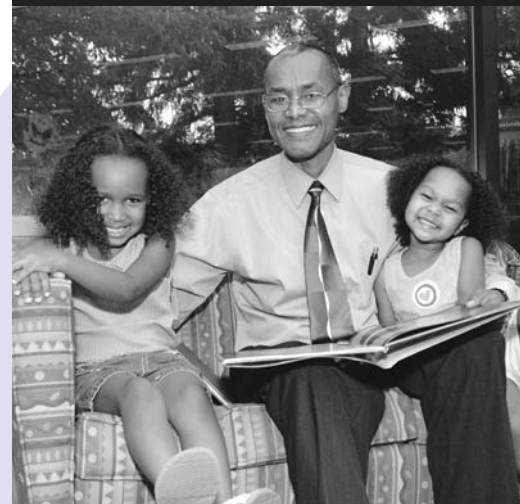
- The Library and City of Puyallup developed a pilot program to give customers greater choice, convenience and customer-focus and offer Puyallup and Pierce County residents the option to check out books and other materials for free from either library.
- The pilot program launched January 2007 and will run through March 2008.

#### University Place Library

- To make way for the City of University Place's Uptown Center, the University Place Library moved to a temporary location on 27th Street West.
- The new University Place Library will open in the Uptown Center in 2009.



### Re-authorized Levy



In September 2006, voters gave a 56 percent approval to re-authorize the Library's levy. From the re-authorized levy, the Library will maintain current and provide additional library services, beginning in 2007. The four new services include:

- 1 Wider variety of books and other materials. Cut the time people wait for best-seller books by 30 percent.
- 2 More open hours in library branches. Increase open hours by 20 percent per week: all libraries open Monday; nine libraries open Sunday; and six libraries open Thursday evenings.
- 3 Additional services for kids and teenagers. Add 10 staff to current staff of 13 that will be dedicated to helping kids with reading and homework research.
- 4 Upgraded services and technology for customers. Add 100 more computers with Internet access for customers and start offering free computer classes for adults.

#### Financial picture in 2006

Property taxes fund approximately 96 percent of the Library's services. In 2006, the Library System's total revenues were \$18.3 million. The Library's total expenditures were \$17.8 million.

With the voter-approved re-authorized levy, the Library's Board of Trustees approved a \$26.4 million budget for 2007, an increase to the Library's \$17.7 million budget in 2006, with revenues from all sources.

Pierce County Library System thanks property owners for their continued support.

Check out more detailed information about the Library's budget @ [www.piercecountylibrary.org/about-us/administration/finance](http://www.piercecountylibrary.org/about-us/administration/finance)

### FAST FACTS

- Established in 1946.
- 1,600 square mile service area, serving all of unincorporated Pierce County and the annexed cities and towns of Bonney Lake, Buckley, DuPont, Eatonville, Edgewood, Gig Harbor, Lakewood, Milton, Orting, South Prairie, Steilacoom, Sumner, University Place and Wilkeson.
- Serves nearly 509,000 people.
- 17 branches.
- Two bookmobiles.
- One Explorer Kids' Bookmobile, which serves children in low-income neighborhoods.
- Every month, serves 60 childcare centers with books, music and more.
- Every-other-month, serves 70 family day care centers with books and materials.
- Every month, takes audio books on CD and other materials to 80 people who are homebound.
- Every month, brings 20 adult care