

# WOODLAND PUBLIC LIBRARY

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To: Woodland Library Board of Trustees From: Heather Muller, Library Services Director

Date: June 9, 2010 Re: Director's Report

## "May Revision" of State Budget Retains Library Funding

On May 16, 2011, Governor Jerry Brown released his "May Revision" of the State Budget. The annual "May Revision" process allows a Governor the opportunity to make any positive or declining revenue adjustments to his January Budget, which are based largely in part on the March and April tax receipts. As has been widely reported in the press, the tax receipts were, in fact, \$2.8 billion higher in 2010-11 and \$3.5 billion higher in 2011-12 than anticipated, giving the Governor some flexibility to adjust his January Budget recommendations.

The Governor's original budget proposal had eliminating all funding for three major library programs in his January Budget (the California Library Services Act, the Public Library Foundation, and the California Library Literacy Services program – cuts totaling \$30.4 million). Then the Budget Conference Committee proposed \$15.2 million in funding to maintain the integrity and function of these services.

On May 16th, Governor Brown protected this library funding by restoring \$15.2 million in his "May Revision" of the Budget. This action would mirror that of the legislature's which would apportion \$8.5 million for the California Library Services Act (resource sharing reimbursement and funding for the regions, and a suitable baseline to allow the State Library to comply with the federal IMLS/LSTA match requirements), \$3.7 million for the California Library Literacy Services program, and \$3 million for the Public Library Foundation.

While the library community is happy that this important funding is reflected in the budget, it is bittersweet in that it is only half of what it was last year.

### PLF (Public Library Fund)

While the fate of PLF is still uncertain, the California State Library and the State Librarian continue to prepare for next year's possible disbursement of PLF funds. One step in the process is to "certify" population figures of each library that could receive PLF funds.

The State Librarian released population numbers for the 2011-12 PLF and Woodland's population numbers decreased to 55,549 from last year's 57,288. According to Gerry Maginnity, the State Library's Chief of the Library Development Services Bureau,

"In the months after their certification was published last year on May 1, 2010, the California Department of Finance updated their data to reflect the 2010 Census results. In most cases this lowered the population estimates. Their data released in May 2011 reflects those changes.

Given this modification, the figures we used for this year's certification show a decrease for California's total population of 1,137,324 from 2010 to 2011 and only 37 library jurisdictions show increased populations in 2011.

Are you all really serving less people than last year? Absolutely not. But we still have to adhere to Section 18021 of the California Education Code which specifies how population figures are to be determined for use in Public Library Fund allocations. Since the Census modifications were applied uniformly across California, your PLF portions should not be adversely affected."

#### NorthNet Update

The Mountain Valley Library System met online May 31<sup>st</sup> to discuss bids for the delivery service used to transport items between library systems. The Director was unable to attend so Patricia Lakie attended. There were two quotes – one from our current service, Sprint, and one from a competitor, BeavEx. Sprint drivers complete a "route" and drop off items as they are picked up. BeavEx uses a central sorting facility and has larger trucks. Sprint's quote was \$9,915 a year for delivery 4 days a week while BeavEx's quote was \$4,575. The membership of MVLS decided to accept BeavEx's bid. The contract will begin July 1<sup>st</sup>. With the different processing system of BeavEx, we have requested that WPL's delivery service be changed to Monday through Thursday – NorthNet representatives are meeting with BeavEx June 8<sup>th</sup> and should have an answer to that request June 9<sup>th</sup>.

On June 9<sup>th</sup>, NorthNet member libraries are meeting at the West Sacramento Library. There will also be a MVLS meeting over the lunch hour.

#### Library Legislative Day

On Wednesday, May 18th, Director Heather Muller joined fellow library supporters from around the state to meet with legislators in an event organized by the California Library Association. Heather was able to meet with Assemblymembers Mariko Yamada and Jim Nielsen as well as staff from Senator Lois Wolk's office.

While there, Heather handed out *STEPS in the Mirror*, the book put together by the Woodland Public Library Literacy Service with creative writing from Wayfarer residents, and shared with the representatives the success of such programs as the Library and Literacy's joint effort in the Employment Literacy Program (funded by federal grants that the state is in danger of losing if state library funding is eliminated).

#### Online: BookFLIX

BookFLIX is up and running! This great resource is made available through the California State Library who utilized Library Services and Technology Act funds to purchase access for every library in the state.

Bookflix is an exciting online literacy resource that pairs classic video storybooks with related nonfiction ebooks to get kids excited about reading and learning! With a library card, you can access BookFLIX anywhere there is an internet connection -- from the library or from home. You can get to it anytime, 24/7! It is specifically created to support beginning and reluctant readers. It includes:

- 95 classic video storybooks, each paired with a related nonfiction ebook
- 27 Spanish-language versions
- Read-aloud support, so kids can hear each book narrated and also hear definitions of keywords and directions for each activity
- Educational games and activities
- Safe, age-appropriate web links, selected by Scholastic editors
- "Meet the author" section to learn more about the author of each fiction book

For pre-K to 3rd grade age groups

To access Bookflix from anywhere, visit the Library's Kids webpage, <a href="http://www.cityofwoodland.org/gov/depts/library/kids/default.asp">http://www.cityofwoodland.org/gov/depts/library/kids/default.asp</a> and select the link for "home" access under the Bookflix logo.

Between Bookflix and Tumblebook (both databases available through our website with a library card), story time can be anytime!!

#### Online: Ebsco

The three new databases are provided by EBSCOhost and consist of MasterFILE Premier, Points of View Reference Center, and Legal Information Reference Center.

MasterFILE Premier contains full text for nearly 1,700 periodicals covering all subjects as well as full text for more than 500 reference books. One of the most useful journals is Consumer Reports. The database offers access to issues – with no delay in publication.

Points of View Reference Center provides students with a series of essays that present both sides of current issues, all full-text. With over 280 topics provided, each with an overview, point, and counterpoint, it serves as a valuable access point for gaining insight into the multiple sides of issues of the day.

The Legal Information Reference Center is based on the popular Nolo Press publications, all of which are self-help legal guides for the lay person. Topics covered include business and corporations, family affairs and divorce, money and financial planning, patents, copyrights and trademarks, property and real estate, rights and disputes, wills and estate planning, and immigration and travel.

All of these databases are accessible in the library via the public computers as well as available through remote access from home, school, work, and anywhere else one has a computer and the Internet available. They are provided for Woodland Public Library patrons, thus one needs to have a library card in order to access them outside the library. Visit our Electronic Resource page at <a href="http://www.cityofwoodland.org/gov/depts/library/research/resources.asp">http://www.cityofwoodland.org/gov/depts/library/research/resources.asp</a> and select a database to start your search.

#### Literacy: STEP

Woodland Public Library Literacy Service's STEP (Strength Through Education) program in conjunction with the Yolo Wayfarer Center is proud to announce that the residents of the program took first place in the group category at the Davis Arts Centers annual NAMI Sunflower contest.

"At the Wayfarer Center, we spend a majority of our time based on reading and writing skills," notes Literacy Coordinator Sue Bigelow, "but we also realize that not everyone fits into this niche. Some of the residents are more visually oriented, so every so often we work on a group art project."

For this year's project, under the leadership of Literacy volunteer Carol Joyce, residents put together an entry in the annual NAMI Sunflower contest. This year's theme was "Seeds of Hope". In one session, residents painted river rocks to represent their "seeds of hope". In another session, residents made the "rays of sunshine" that surround the seeds. The poster on the wall includes their explanations of their art.

The STEP entry is on display at the Davis Art Center. A reception at the Davis Art Center is this Friday evening from 6:30-8:30. You can check the link below for more info about the contest and the times the Center is open.

STEP funded in part by the Community Development Block Grant.

http://www.namisunflowers.org/art-main.html



## Literacy: Job Skills Computer Lab

Thanks to the generous donation from the Woodland Sunrise Rotary, the Woodland Public Library and its Literacy Service was able to top off its last four Employment workshops by creating a computer lab specifically oriented to the job seeker.

Through a \$2,000 grant from Woodland Sunrise Rotary, the Library was able to purchase 3 full-sized laptop computers, and software. "It is a great addition to the 5 laptops we have in the lab," notes Literacy Coordinator Sue Bigelow, "and will allow beginning job seekers to spend some quality time with tutors learning job seeking skills."

Beginning June 13, and running Monday and Tuesday afternoons from 1:30-3pm, the job computer lab will be open in the conference room of the Leake Center at the Woodland Public Library. Space is limited to those seeking job related computer skills, so to make a reservation call the Literacy Service at 661-5987.

The Woodland Public Library is extremely grateful to the Woodland Sunrise Rotary for adding computers and software to our lab, and adding to the public's ability to learn the computer skills necessary to gain employment.

