Scottish Dancers and 2012 Piper to the Chief, Erik Leiken Help to Celebrate the Legacy of Andrew Carnegie

If you are looking for something to do on this upcoming Thanksgiving Saturday, come to the Woodland Public Library and help celebrate the anniversary of Andrew Carnegie's birthday. The Woodland Library Rose Club (WLRC) and the Friends of the Woodland Public Library are hosting the Scottish dancers from the Caledonian Club of Sacramento and 2012 Piper to the Chief, Erik Leiken in the Library Courtyard and Leake Complex from 1:00 p.m. until 4:00 p.m. on the 24th of November. They are inviting residents of Yolo County and beyond to embrace the legacy of Andrew Carnegie. The library is located at 250 First Street in Woodland.

A garden gnome, nicknamed "Andy C." will be available for photographs at a nominal charge as he begins his journey to what hopes to be all of the still functioning Carnegie Libraries in California. The traveling gnome is entrusted to raise awareness to the libraries in the communities they serve. "These are tough times and many libraries have taken tough budget cuts over the past few years." Remarks WLRC member Pat Henderson.

"This is our way of reminding people what treasures libraries are to their community. We hope the other libraries will create an event and enjoy it as much as we have enjoyed planning our celebration." Added Jackie Montgomery, also a WLRC member and literacy advocate.

Woodland's first library was established in 1874 with donated books and funds raised through ice cream socials and other community events. A \$10,000 grant from the Carnegie foundation initiated the complex we now enjoy as the Woodland Public Library. An entertaining presentation by Sandy Briggs-Howell will enlighten us on our library's spirited history, for it appears there was a bit of controversy regarding the library's design.

Dancers from the Caledonian Club of Sacramento and 2012 Piper to the Chief, Erik Leiken will pay tribute to Carnegie's Scottish origins as they perform for the community and stay to pose for photographs with the crowd. Leiken, a champion piper has been playing the bagpipes since the age of eight. His awards are legion, having won Champion of Champions in Grade 1 in the Western United State Pipe Band Association (WUSPBA) in 2008 and 2009, Overall Grade 1 Champion in 2007 and 2008, the United States Piping Foundation (USPF) in 2008 and 2009. Leiken advanced to professional class in 2009. "A grade-one piper is the best, it doesn't go any higher than that." Stated Randy Russell, Games Manager of the Sacramento Valley Scottish Games & Festival. Cupcakes, popcorn, Carnegie tea and punch will round out the birthday celebration.