



County Librarian's Update

May 2014

Facilities

- **Sierra Vista Mall Branch.**

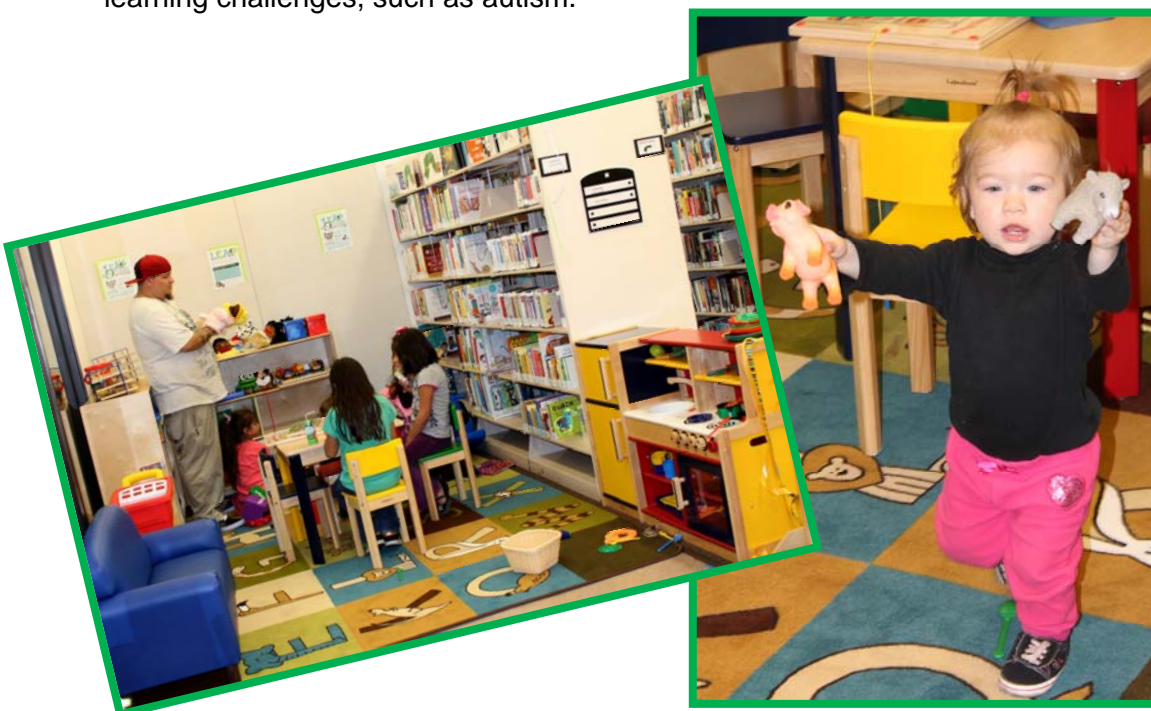
- We have our new branch up and running! The grand opening was May 1st and it is working very well.
- In its first month of operation (our soft opening was April 1st) we had: 766 checkouts; 498 materials were returned; 16 requests for items were placed; and 20 items on hold were picked up. These are very small



numbers, but for a service that had not been promoted until the grand opening, these are impressive. We are the first library in the country (and the world) to put one of these in a shopping mall.

- **Opening of the LEAP Center at Sunnyside Regional Library.**

- With a \$50,000 grant from the California State Library, FCPL was able to open the new LEAP Center (**L**earn, **E**ngage, **A**chieve, **P**lay) in March. This Center is similar to our Early Learning Centers except the materials and interactives for children focus on kids with learning challenges, such as autism.



- **West Fresno Early Learning Center Opening.**



Grants

- LSTA Pitch 'n Idea. The Library has been forwarded to the second round of this grant cycle to complete a full application for funding a college readiness program.
- California State Library: \$10,000 (*Books4U Program*). The Library will receive another grant this year with the second round of this program.
- Big Read: \$15,000. The Library has been awarded its 9th grant for the Big Read and this year's title is *The Maltese Falcon*.
- ELF Grant: \$4,643 which partially funded the Early Learning Center at Cedar-Clinton Library.

Library Foundation Fundraising Initiatives

- Bob Kolbert: \$10,500 (*Early Learning Center at Fig Garden*)
- Whitney Foundation: \$30,000 (*Early Learning Centers at Orange Cove and Mendota*)
- Foundation fundraiser: *Fresno Food Chronicles: Ode to Summer*, honoring Chef Roy Harland to be held June 13, 2014.

2014 Big Read: The Great Gatsby

- Numbers are still being tallied and it looks like attendance will top 30,000 for this year's event. With a Speak-Easy, Read-a-Thon, play, and various other events throughout the county many people came out to celebrate the era of the Great Gatsby.



Budget Priorities for FY2014/15

This year we plan to continue with the successes of previous years:

- Expand programs and services through the introduction of Early Learning Centers at Mendota, Orange Cove, Fig Garden and Cedar-Clinton and finalize the roll-out of the WoW! Library.
- Focus on staff training and development, starting with our 100th Annual Staff Day on October 13, 2014.
- Refurbish facilities, working with the Friends of the Library to assist with furniture replacements (reading tables, chairs, and lounge seating).
- Increase the total service hours available throughout the system with the implementation of new service hours at select branches in July 2014.
- Replace worn out materials and add new materials, focusing on ordering more e-collections.
- Maintain current facilities in order to provide a safe and welcoming environment with the hiring of additional maintenance staff, planned replacements of plumbing fixtures, new carpet, and replacement of overgrown landscaping at select facilities.
- Construct new libraries and remodel existing facilities with the selection of sites for a new Clovis and Reedley branch, which will then include the launch of local fundraising campaigns for each facility. Additionally there is the possible move of the Cedar-Clinton and Politi libraries to larger and more modern facilities, and the move of the Headquarters and Administrative operations so the Central Library renovation can take place.