

PLACENTIA INVOICES

PERIOD COVERED FY2004-2005	DATE INVOICE	S. CA EDISON	TURF	GROUNDS	MAINT/ REPAIRS	CIV CTR SEISMIC	IRRIGATION CONTROL	TOTAL
Jul-04	07/28/04	4,661.33	1,150.57	690.71	276.54	0.00	7.27	6,786.42
Aug-04	08/23/05	5,332.93	1,150.57	722.54	302.50	0.00	7.29	7,515.83
Sep-04	09/14/04	5,250.20	1,150.57	679.43	0.00	0.00	0.00	7,080.20
Oct-04	10/15/04	5,155.44	1,150.57	679.43	215.00	0.00	14.45	7,214.89
Nov-04	11/04/04	3,963.90	1,150.57	686.96	0.00	0.00	7.18	5,808.61
Dec-04	12/14/05	0.00	1,150.57	788.19	252.50	0.00	7.18	2,198.44
Jan-05	01/10/05	6,334.08	1,150.57	875.17	0.00	0.00	14.40	8,374.22
Feb-05	02/07/05	3,493.88	1,150.57	802.54	107.50	0.00	7.23	5,561.72
Mar-05	03/09/05	3,337.04	2,392.41	726.17	107.50	0.00	7.24	6,570.36
Apr-05	04/13/05	3,017.99	0.00	726.17	107.50	0.00	7.30	3,858.96
May-05	05/02/05	0.00	1,150.57	573.42	0.00	0.00	7.22	1,731.21
Jun-05	06/10/05	6,593.11	1,150.57	580.92	215.00	0.00	0.00	8,539.60
TOTAL		47,139.90	13,898.11	8,531.65	1,584.04	0.00	86.76	71,240.46
AVG		3,928.33	1,158.18	710.97	132.00	0.00	7.23	5,936.71

PERIOD COVERED FY2005-2006	DATE INVOICE	S. CA EDISON	TURF	GROUNDS	MAINT/ REPAIRS	CIV CTR SEISMIC	IRRIGATION CONTROL	TOTAL
Jul-05	07/11/05	4,306.02	1,150.57	649.79	0.00	0.00	14.68	6,121.06
Aug-05	08/08/05	5,806.71	1,150.57	649.79	107.50	0.00	7.42	7,721.99
Sep-05	09/12/05	5,666.05	1,150.57	243.44	460.73	0.00	7.20	7,527.99
Oct-05	10/05/02	5,323.86	1,150.57	184.99	215.00	0.00	0.00	6,874.42
Nov-05	11/03/05	3,277.59	1,150.57	354.93	107.50	0.00	14.37	4,904.96
Dec-05	12/12/05	2,597.26	1,150.57	291.60	107.50	0.00	7.20	4,154.13
Jan-06	01/10/06	2,154.68	2,104.43	385.17	2,366.02	0.00	7.20	7,017.50
Feb-06	02/09/06	2,494.98	1,150.57	210.52	348.72	0.00	7.15	4,211.94
Mar-06	03/08/06	0.00	1,150.57	123.06	107.50	0.00	7.17	1,388.30
Apr-06	04/11/06	2,772.36	1,150.57	144.17	107.50	0.00	7.23	4,181.83
May-06	05/12/06	2,502.66	1,150.57	144.17	107.50	0.00	7.17	3,912.07
Jun-06	06/12/06	2,752.81	1,553.83	144.17	107.50	0.00	0.00	4,558.31
TOTAL		39,654.98	15,163.96	3,525.80	4,142.97	0.00	86.79	62,574.50
AVG		3,304.58	1,263.66	293.82	345.25	0.00	7.23	5,214.54

PERIOD COVERED FY2006-2007	DATE INVOICE	S. CA EDISON	TURF	GROUNDS	MAINT/ REPAIRS	CIV CTR SEISMIC	IRRIGATION CONTROL	TOTAL
Jul-06	07/13/06	3,167.47	1,582.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.19	4,756.99
Aug-06		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Sep-06		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Oct-06		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Nov-06		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Dec-06		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jan-07		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Feb-07		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Mar-07		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Apr-07		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
May-07		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
Jun-07		0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00
TOTAL		3,167.47	1,582.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.19	4,756.99
AVG		3,167.47	1,582.33	0.00	0.00	0.00	7.19	4,756.99

Elizabeth Minter

From: Nicole Dunn [nicoled@csgda.net]
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2006 4:32 PM
To: eminter@placentalibrary.org
Subject: CSGDA Legislative Update - June 30, 2006

State Budget Approved/Summer Recess Begins

On Tuesday evening, the Assembly and Senate approved the 2006/07 state budget as well as the host of implementation bills. The governor hailed the Legislature's action as "a great day for California," while fiscal analysts warned of future budget deficits if the economy, that produced billions of new dollars in recent months, takes a downturn. The governor is expected to sign the budget today.

One veto the governor has made pertains to the \$9 million allotment of funds granted to mosquito and vector control agencies for the control efforts of West Nile Virus. He has sustained \$3 million of the funding and specified that the budget contains an additional \$1 million in ongoing funding to support an effective, long-term, strategic plan for West Nile Virus, including a multifaceted surveillance program, extensive public education, and assistance to local agencies and the medical and veterinary communities. While the veto is a major cut to the initial allotment, the governor has stated that he will consider administrative remedies to provide funding to the extent appropriate in the event unforeseen circumstances result in the depletion of funds to fight the disease.

With the state budget completed, the Legislature will commence its summer recess and return to Sacramento on August 7 to complete this year's session, scheduled to adjourn on August 31. Today is the office deadline for policy committees to report bills to fiscal committee and numerous bills of interest to CSGDA were considered this week. Among them were:

Senate Bill 1317

SB 1317 by Senator Tom Torlakson passed the Assembly Local Government Committee on Wednesday. The vote was 6 to 0, with Assembly Members Salinas, DeLa Torre, Houston, Lieber, Berg, and Jones voting in favor and Assembly Member Emmerson abstaining. The bill now moves to the Assembly Appropriations Committee. SB 1317, sponsored by California Edison and supported by other investor owned utilities, the League of California Cities and the California State Association of Counties, would provide an "incentive" to a city or county that sites a new energy facility by shifting more of the unitary property tax to the citing city or county. Schools, counties and nonenterprise special districts are held harmless under the measure, but enterprise special districts and the non-siting cities would shift their allocation of the unitary tax growth attributable to the new energy facility to the siting city or county. CSGDA continues to object to using enterprise special districts revenues for this purpose and will continue to oppose SB 1317. Given the vote in the Senate and the Assembly Local Government Committee, stopping SB 1317 will be very difficult.

Assembly Bill 1953

AB 1953 by Assembly Member Chan would change the current standard for lead piping and piping materials. The bill was placed on the Assembly Appropriations Committee's Suspense File Wednesday. The committee will consider the Suspense File in August. CSGDA supports AB 1953.

Senate Bill 1206/Senate Bill 1210

SB 1206 by Senator Kehoe and SB 1210 by Senator Torlakson, the principal eminent domain bills for this year, passed the Assembly Housing and Community Development Committee on Wednesday. SB 1206 passed 5 to 0, while SB 1210 passed 7 to 0. Both bills were referred to the Assembly Judiciary Committee where they were heard and passed on Thursday. Senator Kehoe, on behalf of her SB 1206, indicated during the Assembly Judiciary Committee hearing, that her bill and perhaps others, would be resolved in a conference committee when the Legislature returns in August. It is highly probable that SB 1206 and SB 1210 will pass to the governor, who has not as yet announced a position on either bill.

Both bills were heard the day after the Secretary of State certified the so-called "Anderson Initiative" for

the November ballot. Considered by most redevelopment law and eminent domain experts as "extreme," the measure houses several far-reaching provisions that would ultimately cost taxpayers billions of dollars in new costs. The initiative, if passed, would drive up the cost of infrastructure projects, prevent voters and state and local agencies from enacting environmental protections, and jeopardize funds for police, fire and other critical local services. Other consequences would include a major increase in frivolous lawsuits and the transfer of control of neighborhoods and communities from voters to corporations and developers. CSDA has joined a broad coalition consisting of taxpayer, education, business, environmental, ethnic, and local government groups to oppose the Anderson Initiative and more information relative to the coalition's activities will be forthcoming.

Assembly Bill 2951

AB 2951 by Assembly Member Goldberg clarifies that public agencies that provide public utility services have the authority to charge other public agencies on the same basis as comparable nonpublic users, except capital facilities fees, which the public agency must negotiate with schools, higher education and state agencies.

AB 2951 passed the Senate Local Government Committee Wednesday on a 5 to 0 vote, which the education community strongly opposed. It is unclear as of this writing as to whether AB 2951 will proceed to the Senate Appropriations Committee or be re-referred to the Senate Education Committee, a move supported by the education lobby and opposed by the author and supporters.

Senate Education Committee Chair Jack Scott opposes AB 2951 and has requested the Senate Rules Committee refer the bill to his committee. Assembly Member Goldberg and the supporters will be asking the Senate Rules Committee to reject the referral and send the bill to the Senate Appropriations Committee. The Senate Rules Committee may not act on the referral until after the summer recess.

Email Updates Available for All Member Agencies' Officials and Employees

Legislative Updates are emailed every Friday that the California Legislature is in session. Past and current updates are available in the Legislation & Action section of the CSDA member's website . If anyone else at your agency would like to receive these updates by email, or if you would like to stop receiving these updates, let us know by calling toll-free (877) 924-CSDA or by emailing nicoled@csda.net .

CSDA...keeping special districts informed!

A proud member of the CSDA Alliance.

California Special Districts Association

Special District Risk Management Authority

CSDA Finance Corporation

1112 I Street, Suite 200, Sacramento, CA 95814

(877) 924-CSDA toll-free; (916) 442-7889 fax

www.csda.net

Elizabeth Minter

From: Nicole Dunn [nicoled@csda.net]
Sent: Friday, June 23, 2006 3:30 PM
To: eminter@placentialibrary.org
Subject: CSDA Legislative Update - June 23, 2006

Legislature Grinds Toward Summer Recess

With the summer recess scheduled for July 7 to August 7, the Legislature, facing a June 30 policy committee deadline, will consider hundreds of bills next week. Additionally, the Legislature is facing another deadline, July 1, the start of the new fiscal year, to pass the 2006-07 state budget. While the Legislature missed the June 15 constitutional deadline to pass the budget, it appears that the budget will be passed by July 1, perhaps early to mid-next week.

Assembly Bill 2435 Clears Committee

Assembly Bill 2435 by Assembly Member Coto, which contains numerous amendments to the Santa Clara Valley Water District's special act passed the Senate Local Government Committee on Wednesday with all five of the committee members voting in favor of the measure.

Recently, the Santa Clara County Civil Grand Jury released reports on numerous special districts in the county, including Santa Clara Valley Water District. For the most part, the reports were very critical of the studied special districts and there was concern that the timing of the reports could affect the outcome of AB 2435 and lead to Santa Clara specific or statewide legislation to implement the Jury's recommendations. While the Jury's reports were cited in the committee analysis and raised by an opponent to AB 2435, the subject had no impact on the bill's passage.

Irrigation District's Board of Directors Bill Advances

On Wednesday, the Senate Local Government Committee approved AB 159 by the Assembly Local Government Committee Chair Salinas. AB 159 waives the landowner qualification for the director of an irrigation district if the district elects its directors without divisions, and the district must submit an urban water management plan to the State Department of Water Resources. Additionally, the waiver applies if the district elects its directors by divisions, the district must submit an urban water management plan to the State Department of Water Resources, and the district supplies drinking water to the division that the director represents. AB 159 does not apply to directors appointed or elected before January 1, 2007, until their terms expire.

Service Extensions Bill Passes

AB 2259, also by Assembly Member Salinas, was passed this week. The bill would extend the existing sunset of January 1, 2007 for LAFCOs to review and comment on the extension of services into previously unserved territory in unincorporated areas and the creation of new service providers. AB 2259 extends the sunset to January 1, 2013, and states that the purpose of this review is to ensure that the extension of services is consistent with state and local policies. The Senate Local Government Committee approved the bill Wednesday with a 5 to 0 vote.

State Mandated Local Programs/Assembly Bill 2176

AB 2176 by Assembly Member Niello requires the Legislature to specify upon whom the charge, fee, or assessment may be levied in any statute that states it does not impose a reimbursable state-mandated program because the local agency has the authority to levy service charges, fees, or assessments sufficient to pay for the mandated program or increased level of service. The Senate Local Government

Elizabeth Minter

From: Nicole Dunn [nicoled@csda.net]
Sent: Tuesday, June 20, 2006 4:20 PM
To: eminter@placentalibrary.org
Subject: CSDA Special Update - June 20, 2006 - Action Requested

Action Requested - for enterprise districts whose legislators are on the Assembly Committee on Local Government

Oppose SB 1317 - Send a Letter Today!

This bill, by Sen. Tom Torlakson, is similar to last year's AB 737 and would reallocate property taxes within a county to the detriment of enterprise special districts that receive property taxes. Under the bill, if a city or a county allows a public utility to build an electric facility in their boundaries, they would get a much larger portion of the resulting property taxes than under current law. Of course, this money has to come from somewhere, and in this case it would come from the enterprise districts in the county. The only exception is if a district happens to provide that site with water or fire services. Even though the dollar amounts for any given project are not huge, this is the first step down a very dangerous path.

CSDA is asking that members belonging to an enterprise district whose legislators are on the Assembly Committee on Local Government send in letters of opposition. You will find a list of those Assembly Members below, along with their fax numbers. Additionally, you may alter and use the sample letter provided below; and add any specifics you would like. In addition to the committee members, please also fax and/or mail copies of your letter to CSDA (so we can track statewide response). You can find all of the necessary contact information at the end of the sample letter below. SB 1317 is scheduled to be heard on **June 28** in the Assembly Committee on Local Government so please send your letter of opposition as soon as possible.

Thank you for your assistance and support with this matter.

June XX, 2006

Dear Assembly Member:

On behalf of <<NAME OF DISTRICT>>, I am writing to register our opposition to Senate Bill 1317 by Sen. Tom Torlakson, relating to the reallocation of property tax revenues from new utility facilities.

Under the current unitary method applicable to specified utility facilities, all entities of local government receive an allocation of property tax revenues in accordance with a statutory formula. As written, Senate Bill 1317 would modify the current formula by allocating the majority of property tax revenues from new facilities to the city or county that sites the new facility. While the bill would allocate some of the property tax revenues resulting from new facilities to the fire and water providers that would service the new facility, it does so at the expense of other enterprise special districts that provide vital services to the area's residents and businesses. For districts, unlike cities and counties, property taxes are one of the only available revenue sources, so we are extremely sensitive to changes in the allocation formula.

<<INSERT INFORMATION HERE ABOUT HOW YOUR AGENCY USES PROPERTY TAXES>>

6/21/2006

Our district understands the need for additional electrical generating capacity, but we strongly disagree with the manner in which Senate Bill 1317 proposes to meet that goal. If cities and counties choose not to site new generation facilities, then rather than modifying a fair property tax allocation system, perhaps the Legislature should evaluate the reasons why cities and counties choose not to site new facilities. Is it because they get too little property tax, or for other reasons? Following such an analysis, the Legislature would be in a much better position to determine if incentives, such as more property tax revenues, are necessary to assist cities and counties in their decision-making process relating to siting new generation facilities.

We appreciate the opportunity to advise you of our opposition to Senate Bill 1317 and we respectfully urge your nay vote.

cc:

Use the following contact information to send copies of your letter to those listed above:

Honorable Simon Salinas, Chair
Room 2175
Fax: 916/319-2128

Honorable Bill Emmerson, Vice Chair
Room 3149
Fax: 916/319-2163

Honorable Hector De La Torre
Room 4162
Fax: 916/319-2150

Honorable Guy Houston
Room 2130
Fax: 916/319-2115

Honorable Sally Lieber
Room 3091
Fax: 916/319-2122

Honorable Joe Nation
Room 5119
Fax: 916/319-2106

Honorable Lois Wolk
Room 6012
Fax: 916/319-2108

CSDA
Fax: 916/442-7889

Elizabeth Minter

From: Jeri Takeda [jtakeda@mcls.org]
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2006 3:38 PM
To: 'MCLS/SLS/SSCLS/Associate Member Directors'
Cc: shaber; bgallardo; ccarlisle; hfirchow; jlambert; jstaff; lpatric; mgermroth; palger
Subject: FW: [CALIX:5485] News From the Capitol: Governor Signs Budget

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-calix@listproc.sjsu.edu
[mailto:owner-calix@listproc.sjsu.edu] On Behalf Of Laura Fisher
Sent: Friday, June 30, 2006 2:36 PM
To: Calix
Subject: [CALIX:5485] News From the Capitol: Governor Signs Budget

To: CLA Members/ Systems/ Network Contacts

From: Mike Dillon, CLA Lobbyist
Christina Dillon, CLA Lobbyist

RE: News From the Capitol

**I. GOVERNOR SIGNS BUDGET - GREAT DAY FOR LIBRARIES!
\$7 MILLION FOR PLF AND \$7 MILLION FOR TBR INCLUDED IN AB 1801**

At 11:30 a.m. today, Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger held a press conference to announce he was signing the \$131 billion 2006-07 State Budget in the Rotunda of the State Capitol, while flanked by the legislative leaders in each house and the two Budget Chairs. The Governor, wielding his pen, signed the Budget bill, AB 1801, at 11:50 a.m., and then posed for photos with Assembly Speaker Nunez and Senate President pro Tem Perata. Speaker Nunez called the Budget one that "reflects a shared vision for California - one that can be fiscally conservative, and compassionate." Assembly Republican Leader George Plescia praised the efforts of his colleagues, noting that in terms of his caucus' goals, "paying down debt was our number one priority." In a document released shortly before noon that accompanies the Governor's action on the State Budget, it states: "The 2006 Budget Act signed by Governor Schwarzenegger fulfills the two principal budget priorities he put forth in his May Revision - improving the State's fiscal health by; 1) paying down debt and building a reserve; and 2) fully funding education

-
while also providing critical funding for law enforcement, disaster preparation and services for abused and neglected children."

Thanks to the successful lobbying efforts by CLA, the strong support of the Governor and his Administration, and the action of the Senate Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance and the Assembly Budget Subcommittee on Education Finance, today's Budget bill contains a significant increase in two important library programs - the Public Library Foundation and the Transaction Based Reimbursement. The Governor's Budget document released today states:

California State Library

"The Budget provides a \$7 million General Fund increase to the Public Library Foundation (PLF) program and an additional \$7 million General Fund increase to the transaction-based Interlibrary Loan and Direct Loan Program.

The augmentation to the PLF will enhance base support for local libraries, allowing for longer hours of operation, the purchase of more books or expenditures for other local priorities. The increase to the Interlibrary and Direct Loan programs will allow local libraries to recoup costs incurred when libraries share resources with other library districts, thereby encouraging efficient resource allocation."

This important action by the Governor and the legislature brings the total baseline for the PLF to approximately \$21.3 million and the total baseline for the TBR to approximately \$18.6 million.

II. SCHOOL LIBRARIES BIG WINNERS AS WELL

The Budget also provides for funding for an Instructional Materials, School Libraries, and Education Technology Grant under the K-12 Proposition 98 portion of the Budget. \$100 million is set-aside for this purpose and the Budget document reads as follows regarding this item:

Instructional Materials, School Libraries, and Education Technology Grants

"The Budget includes \$100 million in one-time Proposition 98 funds for the purchase of instructional materials, school and classroom library materials and one-time technology costs. High-quality instructional materials for every student are a fundamental building block of a strong educational program and are required under the Williams settlement. These resources will help schools fill gaps in their instructional material programs and replace lost textbooks. Further, school libraries play a vital role in promoting academic achievement and providing instructional support. The resources provided in the Budget will help to replenish and refresh both school and classroom library materials. In addition to the purchase of books and materials, these funds are available for the purchase of one-time education technology which provides schools with many options for enhancing instruction through the use of electronic multimedia materials. Grants will be allocated to school districts and county offices of education on an equal amount per pupil based on the number of pupils in kindergarten through grade 12."

III. SENATE COMMITTEE PASSES CABLE BILL - DEFERS ISSUE PERTAINING TO THE "PEG" AND LIBRARIES

Despite the fact that the Senate and Assembly were scheduled to depart for their month-long recesses after the conclusion of yesterday's Floor sessions, the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee held another hearing yesterday afternoon, to finish the work they began on AB 2987-Nunez, on Tuesday. You will recall from our memo to you earlier this week, that on Tuesday the Senate Committee held a three hour hearing on the very controversial measure, that is sponsored by AT&T and Verizon, which would enable the two telephone companies to enter into the local market without having to negotiate with cities and counties, as is currently allowed with traditional cable companies. Under the bill, the Public Utilities Commission would issue the new franchises and oversee the new process.

The hearing on Thursday afternoon lasted three hours - again! This time, the Chair, Senator Martha Escutia, noted that the rules of the hearing would change significantly. She stated, "On Tuesday, we had 100 supporters and 100 opponents. I know who the stakeholders are, and I want only a few stakeholders for each today." She then asked only the representatives for Verizon, AT&T, the cable industry, the League of Cities, and CSAC to come to the table. Speaker Nunez then thanked the committee members and staff for "all of the hard work and time that has gone in to the bill. There have been very legitimate concerns raised by the stakeholders." Speaker Nunez, flanked by Assemblyman Lloyd Levine (a co-author on the bill and Chair of the Assembly Utilities and

Commerce Committee) then went issue by issue through the bill and attempted to take amendments that would satisfy the concerns of the committee members and the opponents.

The bill became particularly complicated when it got to the issues of "build-out" and "non-discrimination" and how much AT&T and Verizon will have to commit to building in areas dominated by minority communities, etc.

Similarly, the issues regarding the public, education, and government (PEG)

channels and funding for Institutional networks, and such things as free drops to schools, public buildings and libraries, have become increasingly complex. The issues have been all lumped together by the committee as the "PEG debate." When we spoke to the Speaker's lead consultant on the PEG issue on Thursday, he said that the Speaker wasn't prepared to offer amendments in committee because of the complexity of the issue, and that it was "too hard to cut the pie here." He said he believed the committee would defer the issue and attempt to work on it during the July break and tackle it again when the Senate Appropriations Committee meets in August. Chair Escutia stated, "I had no idea what a PEG channel was before the hearing the other day and now we need to try to define how to keep the cities whole, how many channels, etc." Speaker Nunez stated, "I agree, this is a complicated matter. There are differing levels of PEG channels. Some communities are more sophisticated than others. Let's try to find a framework to develop an over-arching service that has a common thread." He then proposed working through the summer break with Senator Murray and Simitian on a solution.

Said Senator Simitian, "I thank the Speaker. I represent an area where PEG is very important...I am not wild about abrogation. I wasn't in the room when that came up. But I think it is not appropriate for [the cable companies] to walk away from PEG when it is nickels and dimes in terms of a multi-million dollar contract obligation." Senator Cox said, "I would like to thank the Speaker for recognizing the importance of the PEG. Some communities are very far along in terms of the INet." It was then agreed that Senator Simitian and Senator Murray would head up the group that would lead the discussion on the PEG amendments during July, and would bring back something definitive for the Speaker to consider at the Senate Appropriations hearing in August.

The job of local government advocates has become much more difficult now that the cable companies, who were strongly against the bill, have negotiated amendments to serve their needs, and are now siding with AT&T and Verizon. Incidentally, the bill went out of committee on a bi-partisan vote yesterday of 9 "ayes" to 0 "noes." We will keep you posted.

-----calix-+

Views expressed on CALIX are the opinion of the sender and do not necessarily reflect the position of the California Library Association.

How to get off CALIX: Subscribers are strongly encouraged to keep abreast of CLA and California library news via this mailing list.

To sign off from the list, send email to listproc@listproc.sjsu.edu with the following request: SIGNOFF CALIX or UNSUBSCRIBE CALIX in the body of the message. Make sure your subject line is blank and nothing other than the command is in the body of the message.

-----calix--

Elizabeth Minter

From: Jeri Takeda [jtakeda@mcls.org]
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2006 11:18 AM
To: 'MCLS/SLS/SSCLS/Associate Member Directors'
Cc: shaber; bgallardo; ccarlisle; hfirchow; jlambert; jstaff; lpatric; mgermroth; palger
Subject: FW: [CALIX:5470] News From the Capitol

-----Original Message-----

From: owner-calix@listproc.sjsu.edu
[mailto:owner-calix@listproc.sjsu.edu] On Behalf Of Laura Fisher
Sent: Thursday, June 29, 2006 9:43 AM
To: Calix
Subject: [CALIX:5470] News From the Capitol

To: CLA Members/ Systems/ Network Contacts

From: Mike Dillon, CLA Lobbyist; Christina Dillon, CLA Lobbyist

RE: News From the Capitol

**I. SENATE AND ASSEMBLY PASS BUDGET CONTAINING AUGMENATIONS FOR PLF AND TBR
Governor Schwarzenegger Expected To Sign Budget By Friday**

Last night the Senate and Assembly reached agreement on a \$131 billion Budget and brought the bill and related "trailer bills" to their respective floors for a vote shortly after 8 p.m. The Budget bill passed with relatively little drama - except in the Assembly where they were short a few Democrat members due to illness, and had to call for the vote on the Budget bill, AB 1801, three different times (close to 9:30 p.m.) until they received the requisite two-thirds vote for passage.

You may recall that several weeks ago, the powerful six member Budget Conference Committee had been diligently pouring through the Budget document, trying to reconcile the differences between the Governor's January Budget, the Governor's May Revision, the Assembly version of the Budget, and the Senate version of the Budget. However, on Saturday, June 10, they reached a virtual impasse on the "sticking points," that would need to be resolved by the so-called "Big 5" which consists of the Governor, Speaker of the Assembly, Senate President pro Tem, Assembly Republican Leader, and Senate Republican Leader. Republicans were concerned that the Conference Committee product was "bloated" and contained too many new state administrative positions. In addition, they objected to the inclusion in the Budget of funding for health care for "undocumented" children. Not only had the Conference Committee included money for this purpose, but the Governor had also included money in his Budget for undocumented children.

Recently, the stalemate on this issue ended when Democrats dropped their decision to fund this item, and the Governor apparently decided to eliminate this line item from his Budget as well.

The Budget bill, AB 1801, contains a \$7 million increase in funding for the Public Library Foundation. This would bring the total amount of funding for the program to \$21.3 million (see page 553: 6120-221-0001). AB 1801 also contains a \$7 million augmentation for the Transaction Based Reimbursement which will bring the total amount of funding for the program to \$18.6 million for the "Direct Loan and Interlibrary Loan Programs."

(see page
553:
6120-211-0001).

II. AB 2987-NUNEZ: THE MONSTER CABLE BILL AFFECTING...LIBRARIES?

AB 2987, authored by Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez and Assemblyman Lloyd Levine, Chair of the Assembly Utilities and Commerce Committee, and sponsored by AT&T and Verizon, would enable the two telephone companies to enter into the local market without having to negotiate with cities and counties, as is currently allowed with traditional cable companies. AT&T is putting a huge amount of resources behind this bill, as evidenced by the never-ending television ads you have been inundated with over the last few months. The bill passed its initial committee, Assembly Utilities and Commerce, after a two-hour hearing, on a bi-partisan vote of 9 "ayes" to 0 "noes" and 1 abstention - mostly due to the influence of the powerful Assembly Speaker. It passed the Assembly Floor 77 to 0.

There is a huge "turf war" going on between the proponents (AT&T and Verizon) and the opponents (the traditional cable companies, i.e.

Comcast,

etc.) In addition, the League of California Cities and the County Supervisors Association expressed strong concerns with the bill during the policy committee hearing. You may be wondering what a bill between competing cable companies has to do with public libraries?

As you are aware, cities, for example, can charge a franchise fee of up to 5% of gross revenues that can be used for any general fund purpose. (It is like a rental charge on the public right-of-way, as the streets are torn up to put the cable in place.) Additionally, they may charge an additional percent of gross revenues, usually ranging from 1 percent to 3 percent for public, education, and government (PEG) channels, which can include televising city council meetings, etc. Under AB 2987, local governments lose the power to negotiate, and:

- 1) "A community may only keep the PEG channels that are currently activated in accordance with the requirements of the existing franchise.
- 2) The bill imposes a future ceiling of three PEG channels for communities that currently have no PEG channels.
- 3) In addition, when an existing franchise term expires, and in all cases where there are no PEG channels and resources in existing franchises, PEG funding and support opportunities, are severely limited by the state franchise approach as envisioned by AB 2987. PEG funding is limited to the lower of 1% of gross revenues or the amount of capital-related PEG funding required in the expiring franchise.
- 4) Requirements for free drops to schools, public buildings and libraries are not included as permissible state franchise obligations under AB 2987."

[Source: Sue Buske, Alliance for Community Media, National Board]

The CLA Legislative Committee, Chaired by Terri Maguire, took an "oppose unless amended" position on the bill, and directed us to work collaboratively with CSAC and the League of Cities as the bill moved through the process. The bill has been one of the most fascinating bills we have ever been directed to work on, on behalf of CLA - mostly in terms of its importance and enormity in the State Capitol. To give it some perspective, former Senate President pro Tem John Burton and Senator Dede Alpert have been retained to lobby on behalf of the opponents, while the proponents have retained lobbyists such as former Democratic Leader Senator Richard Polanco, former Republican Leader Senator Jim Brulte, several lobbying firms with ties to Governor Schwarzenegger, etc. CLA has been part of a coalition of local government lobbyists and representatives called the "Telecommunications Equality Coalition" and we have been meeting in person or via conference call regularly to discuss strategy or meet with legislators on the Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee.

The Senate Energy, Utilities, and Communications Committee heard the bill on Tuesday morning. The members of the committee have been bombarded with lobbying from both sides, and their over-riding message to all of us has been, "We understand you don't like the bill, but where are your amendments!?" One Senator indicated, "The franchise train has left the station. Do you want to be in the First Class part of the train? Or the caboose?" Her representative explained that she was attempting to help local government achieve their objective, but wanted concrete solutions by way of amendments. During the hearing this Tuesday, literally hundreds of lobbyists and representatives from the local government community swarmed the hallways outside of Room 112 at the Capitol to testify in support and opposition to AB 2987. The mass of people was so great, that the sergeants actually opened "overflow" rooms where lobbyists could watch the hearing on t.v., since many hundreds could not get physically in to the hearing room, due to fire code violations.

Assembly Speaker Nunez, in his opening remarks, stated, "This bill creates a level playing field for market competitors. It also continues to provide PEG channels, which we think is a real positive thing, and we want that to continue." He addressed a series of problems in the bill, acknowledged that he would be willing to take amendments relative to placing the bill under the jurisdiction of the Public Utilities Commission, would allow cable companies to abrogate contracts, would more clearly define "gross revenues," and would strengthen language regarding fees versus taxes. He added, "There are a lot of other outstanding issues, including how to fund the PEG, and Institutional networks, but I am committed to working on that."

Both Chair, Senator Martha Escutia and Senator Kevin Murray expressed their concern that the bill creates disadvantages for minority communities, and that AT&T and Verizon would have no incentive to develop their markets in low income, minority neighborhoods. Said Chair Escutia, "I am not going to allow a bill to get out of my committee without protecting poor people.

It is important to never forget our roots." With countless representatives coming forward to oppose the provisions in the bill pertaining to the PEG language, Senator Escutia said, "I am not going to have this discussion on PEG anymore. I am making an executive decision that Senator Murray, as Chair of Senate Appropriations will address this issue in his committee in August." Senator Joe Simitian, a friend to public libraries and schools, said, "Madame Chair, if we are not going to have the full discussion today, will you allow me to be a participant in the discussion? What we don't want to do is push back in terms of the potential for the PEG." Senator Escutia concurred and said, "Agreed, I'd like to craft something that makes sense."


In a surprising twist, after a three hour hearing, no vote was taken on the bill, and instead, Senator Escutia announced she would hold a hearing this Thursday morning, after the Senate Floor adjourns. She added, "We are going to address every issue. My goal is to address those to the satisfaction of the Chair and the members on both sides of the aisle." Each member of the committee then gave a closing statement. Senator Joe Dunn stated, "We have come a long way and Thursday will be critical. But I am reminded (when I hear) 'We will get a better price via competition' Those were the words of Ken Lay. So I am dubious." Senator Dave Cox said, "I am looking forward to getting into the inner workings of PEG. The devil is in the details and we need to go line by line so we don't put out a product that comes back to haunt us." Senator Battin closed by offering, "The cities need to come to a position. They are beating a dead horse on the PEG. That should be able to be worked out quickly. If that is the bulk of their opposition, then there is no 'there' there!" We will keep you posted.

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Views expressed on CALIX are the opinion of the sender and do not necessarily reflect the position of the California Library Association.



Agenda Item 27

TO: Elizabeth Minter, Library Director

FROM: Jim Roberts, Public Services Manager/Literacy Coordinator 


DATE: July 31, 2006

SUBJECT: Status of Placentia Library Literacy Services (PLLS) Partnerships with the Community.

Provided below is a list of active PLLS partnerships/coalitions in the community. Those with an asterisk (*) are pending and have not yet begun.

- ◆ Placentia Rotary Reading Enrichment Program (PRREP) began in October at El Dorado and Valencia High Schools, and ended in June. Last school year, we had over 100 high school volunteers sign-up for PRREP and attend PRREP meetings.
- ◆ We partner with Even Start at Ruby Drive Elementary School, where we offer Spanish literacy classes on Friday mornings during the school year.
- ◆ Federal Work Study (FWS) is a partnership among Western State University College of Law, Cal State Fullerton and the Library where qualified FWS students work part-time at the Library and off-site, primarily tutoring children. Cal State Fullerton and PLLS have two additional partnerships: 1. the Intern Program, and 2. Service Learning.
- ◆ PLLS is listed as a participating agency for interns with Valencia High School's Val Tech and International Baccalaureate (IB) programs. We had three IB interns last school year.
- ◆ In June 2005, the California State Library awarded the PLLS an LSTA Grant to partner with H.I.S. House to start an after school homework program for children there. That project began on Tuesday, September 20 and ended in June. Last school year we tutored a total of 31 students at H.I.S. House.
- ◆ On Monday, September 19, PLLS began a homework club at Topaz Elementary School for 7th grade students who attend Tuffree Middle School and are graduates of Topaz. The homework club ended in June, and we tutored a grand total of 61 students this past school year.
- ◆ The School District started a citizenship class on February 4 in the Meeting Room.

TO: Elizabeth Minter, Library Director

FROM: Jim Roberts, Public Services Manager/Literacy Coordinator 

DATE : July 31, 2006

SUBJECT: Poet Laureate.

Meredith Laskow, Poet Laureate of the Placentia Library District, met with the Program Committee two times in June.

The poetry program given by Glenna Luschei on June 10 was attended by only two patrons.

Workshop Presenters. Darcel Harris, Education Director, CSDA, in an e-mail, invited Meredith Laskow, our Poet Laureate, and me to present a workshop on Districts Making a Difference, and feature our poet laureate. After the Library Board approves our travel request, Meredith and I will fly to Reno on Tuesday, September 26 for the 3:30-4:30 PM presentation, and return Wednesday. CSDA will cover most of Meredith's and my expenses. We'll finalize our plans in August.



PLACENTIA LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TO: Library Board of Trustees
FROM: Elizabeth D. Minter, Library Director *with foreman*
SUBJECT: Status Report – Audit Recommendations
DATE: July 31, 2006

The following financial information has been incorporated into the Library District's monthly financial reports as recommended by Moreland & Associates.

Capital Assets
Long-Term Debt
Cash & Investments

The financial information was completed in time for inclusion in the Fiscal Year 2005-2006 Budget.

Prepared by: Wendy Goodson

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California State Library
Library Services and Technology Act

Final Narrative Report

This report is due thirty (30) days after the completion date of the grant period, on July 31. Note that failure to submit this report within the timelines of the grant program could jeopardize receipt of the final 10% grant payment. Mail a total of **THREE** copies of the report, one with original signature. Send to:

**California State Library
Budget Office - LSTA
P.O. Box 942837
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001**

Date: July 18, 2006

1. Grant Award ID #: 40-6426
2. Project Title: Placentia Achieves School Success at The Homeless Intervention Shelter House (P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House)
3. FY: 2005-2006
4. Total project period: July 2005-June 2006
5. Grantee: Placentia Library District
6. Address: 411 East Chapman Avenue, Placentia, CA 92870
7. Contact: James A. Roberts, M.Ed.
8. Telephone/E-mail: (714) 524-8408 ext. 215/jroberts@placentialibrary.org
9. Needs:

The school-age residents of H.I.S. House lack the resources that are often necessary to complete homework assignments. These children do not live within walking distance of the Placentia Library. It is difficult for these children to come to the library for reference materials and homework help. To compound this problem, the school-age residents do not have access to computers. Therefore they are not able to complete assignments that require internet research or word processing. As a result, the school-age residents do not have an equal chance to be successful in school.

Applicant Jurisdiction: Placentia Library District
Project Title: P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House

10. Project abstract:

The mission of the Placentia Library District is to provide library services and materials that are responsive to the informational, recreational, educational, and cultural needs of all members of the community. The clients of the Homeless Intervention Shelter House are an under-served part of our library community. The shelter has an average of fifteen school-age children residing there at all times. The children rarely use in-house Placentia Library services such as: reference materials, computers, one-to-one tutoring, and homework help because the library is not within walking distance of the shelter. The children are often unprepared for school because they do not have the resources to complete homework assignments. This situation contributes to low school engagement and low academic achievement.

Our goal was to establish a satellite reference library/homework facility at the shelter, thereby providing the school-age residents with access to library services and materials. The program titled Placentia Achieves School Success Program at the Homeless Intervention Shelter House (P.A.S.S. Program at H.I.S. House), would provide school-age residents with live homework help, access to computers and reference materials, and with a quiet place to do their homework.

The objectives of this program were to motivate school age residents to complete homework assignments, to increase school engagement, and in doing so, to improve their academic achievement. To measure these objectives, we recorded attendance at P.A.S.S. meetings, we surveyed students every two months on their school involvement, and we spoke with parents and H.I.S. House staff to assess academic achievement as part of our needs assessment.

By consistently monitoring the program using the above mentioned methods, the Placentia Library could see that this program was a success. Attendance at P.A.S.S. meetings was consistently at 80% for the first three months of the program. Beginning in January 2006, attendance increased to 90%. Through the surveys we learned that students enjoyed the P.A.S.S. meetings, felt more confident in their abilities, viewed the library as a valuable resource and felt that the services provided by Placentia Library were essential to their academic success. Through needs assessments, we found that school-age residents looked forward to attending P.A.S.S. meetings and were disappointed if they missed a meeting. Parents reported that their children were reading for pleasure, were eager to turn-in completed homework, were receiving better grades in school and that they felt more confident about attending school. The H.I.S. House program staff reported an increase in school attendance.

This program met its objectives and exceeded its goals. The P.A.S.S. Program at H.I.S. House has become a vital part of the shelter. Therefore, it will resume again in September of 2006.

(Do not attach additional pages)

Applicant Jurisdiction: Placentia Library District
Project Title: P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House

11. Project accomplishments:

The goals of this program were:

1. To motivate school age residents to complete homework assignments.
2. To increase school engagement.
3. To improve their academic achievement.

We were able to motivate many of the school-age residents to finish most of their homework assignments. Because of this, attendance at school increased, and students reported increased school engagement. Those who participated in the P.A.S.S. Program reported an improvement in their academic achievement. The list below illustrates the progress made towards reaching these goals:

Objectives

- 99 homework help sessions will be held at H.I.S. House Shelter
- 30 children will receive homework help
- 4 press releases will be distributed
- 3 tutor training sessions will be held
- 25 tutors will be trained
- 1485 reference questions will be answered
- Satellite library will be used frequently
- School-age residents will attend P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions regularly
- Increasing numbers of school-age shelter residents and their parents will state that the satellite reference/homework center serves as an important resource for their use

Outcomes

- 89 homework help sessions were held at H.I.S. House Shelter
- 31 children received homework help
- 1 press release was distributed
- 9 tutor training sessions were held
- 23 tutors were trained
- 1702 reference questions were answered
- Satellite library is open 10 hours per week
- School-age residents attend P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions regularly
- School-age residents and their parents have stated that the satellite reference/homework center serves as an important resource for their use

Use additional pages for this section, as necessary.

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In September 2005, the Placentia Library began the Placentia Achieves School Success Program at Homeless Intervention Shelter (P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House). Using the funds provided by the LSTA grant, we were able to purchase reference books and laptop computers for use by the school-age residents of H.I.S. House. Placentia Library and H.I.S. House collaborated to provide a satellite library/homework center which is open for use ten hours per week. The library has a reference and non-fiction collection that is maintained by library staff, and a fiction collection that is maintained by H.I.S. House staff. In addition, Federal Work Study employees, university service learners, retired community volunteers, and high school students earning community service tutored school-age residents in all subjects. The P.A.S.S. Program meetings were held three times per week for a total of four and a half hours per week. The program recessed for summer in June 2006, and will resume in September 2006.

**P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House
Member Hours
September 2005 - June 2006**

First Name	Sep-05	Oct-05	Nov-05	Dec-05	Jan-06	Feb-06	Mar-06	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Yearly Totals
David	6	18	10.5	12	10.5	10.5	6	n/a	n/a	n/a	73.5
Nori	6	13.5	4.5	3	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	30
Jacob	6	13.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	19.5
Joey	6	12	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	18
Juliana	6	18	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	24
Sarah	1.5	7.5	0	1.5	1.5	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	13.5
Destany	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	3	15	7.5	31.5
Christina	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	6	7.5	0	4.5	n/a	18.5
Paolo	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	0	3	7.5	0	0	n/a	10.5
Ruben	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	9	12	0	6	n/a	28.5
Raven	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3
Trey	0	1.5	0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5
William	1.5	1.5	4.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7.5
Joy	1.5	6.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	8
Christian	7.5	12	9	10.5	9	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	49.5
Elizabeth	n/a	n/a	4.5	6	9	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	21
Jessica	0	4.5	3	7.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	15
Kaleb	3	7.5	0	9	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	19.5
Demi	3	7.5	0	0	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	12
Aaron	3	7.5	6	10.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	27
Marlina	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	3	13.5	7.5	24
Emily	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	21	4.5	9	7.5	43.5
Jesse	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7.5
Shelby	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7.5
Alanna	n/a	n/a	1.5	10.5	9	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	22.5
Oriando	n/a	n/a	1.5	10.5	9	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	22.5
Christian	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	18	4.5	12	7.5	42
Lorissa	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	18	4.5	15	7.5	45
Janessa	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	13.5	10.5	12	3	10.5	7.5	58.5
Natalie	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	13.5	7.5	13.5	3	12	7.5	58.5
Christiana	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	0	0	0	4.5	7.5	13.5
Monthly Totals	61	131	45	99	87	64.5	121.5	25.5	102	60	776.5

* n/a = student was not residing at H.I.S. House at this time.

P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House
Tutor Hours
September 2005 - June 2006

Last Name	First Name	Sep-05	Oct-05	Nov-05	Dec-05	Jan-06	Feb-06	Mar-06	Apr-06	May-06	Jun-06	Yearly Total
Atighechi	Maryam	3	3.75	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	6.75
Bhandaram	Uma	0	0	0	0	1	0	0	0	0	0	1
Borunda	Frank	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.5	0	0	0	0	0	2.5
Contreras	Jerry	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	2.5	8	7.5	9	9	0	36
Del Zotto	Enrico	1	3.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.5
English	Michael	1.5	14.5	11.25	1.5	4.5	0	0	0	7.5	0	40.75
Fimbres	Roseanne	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7	7.5	0	0	14.5
Hughes	Pamela	n/a	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1
Hussaini	Ayesha	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	6	3	6	4.5	0	21
Hussaini	Sakina	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	6	3	6	4.5	0	21
Jensen	Ryan	n/a	2.75	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	4.25
Kachelmeyer	Holly	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	8	5	0	0	1	20
Lessing	Kim	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	1.5
Library	Staff	7.5	18	15	12	15	13.5	21	4.5	18.5	7.5	132.5
Mallory	Fernando	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	7.5	9.25	9	1.5	2	29.25
Maravilla	Sarah	n/a	n/a	5	0	0	2	18	7.5	4.5	2	39
Mazurier	Wendy	3.5	4	4.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12
Olson	Shawn	4.5	9	8	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	23
Paez	Angelica	n/a	1.5	1.25	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	2.75
Romberg	Aaron	n/a	n/a	3.5	1.5	0	0	0	0	0	0	5
Roth	David	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	1.5
Shulmistras	Joe	3	3	7.5	6.75	9.25	0	0	0	0	0	29.5
Tanner	Charlie	1.5	6	5	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	12.5
Weddell	Ashley	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	6	9	0	0	15
	Monthly Totals	27	67	62.5	24.75	43.75	51	79.75	58.5	50	12.5	476.75

Red = Western State University Students
Black = High School Community Service Students
Blue = Cal State Fullerton Students
Green = Community staff
Purple = Community volunteers

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Applicant Jurisdiction: Placentia Library District
Project Title: P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House

12. Subjective evaluation:

The Placentia Achieves School Success Program at the Homeless Intervention Shelter (P.A.S.S. Program at H.I.S. House) was a success. School-age residents attended program meetings on a regular basis. Program members received tutoring from trained and qualified tutors three times per week. Members and parents reported an increase in confidence in children who attended, and they also reported improved grades. The satellite library/reference center was used by residents on a regular basis. Most H.I.S. House residents felt that the satellite library/reference center and P.A.S.S. Program were the contributing factors to their children's improvement in school.

13. Project continuation:

The LSTA funds were used as seed money to provide the program with durable equipment (i.e. computers, books, etc) and to fund the initial year of the project. We have applied to foundations and corporate funding sources to raise money for the second year of P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House. We have received the funding necessary to support a second year of the program. We have actively recruited additional community partners to support the continuation of the program with both funding and volunteers. Specifically, we have been approved for over \$100,000 dollars in Federal Work/Study funds. This means that we will be able to staff the program with highly qualified tutors at minimal cost to the library.

14. Signature/Date  / July 18, 2006

(714) 528-1925 ext. 203
Telephone

eminter@placentialibrary.org
E-mail

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 1)

Library/Jurisdiction: Placentia Library District
 Project name: Placentia Achieves School Success at The Homeless Intervention Shelter House (P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House)
 Contact name: James A. Roberts, M.Ed. Phone #: (714) 524-8408 ext. 215 E-mail: jroberts@placentialibrary.org
 Users: School-age residents of H.I.S. House who have limited access to the library, reference materials, and homework assistance. Grant Number: 40-6426 Fiscal Year: 05-06

Services/ Programs	Inputs	Outputs	Intermediate Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Intermediate Outcome(s)
<p>What will the library provide to the user in order to address the user need and move toward the library goal?</p> <p>A Placentia Library District satellite reference center will be established, in donated space, at the Homeless Intervention Shelter House (H.I.S. House shelter). The satellite center will provide reference books, computers, and homework-help tutors to facilitate homework completion by the school age residents of the shelter.</p>	<p>What resources will the library use to provide the services/ programs?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * A needs assessment will be completed by library staff. It will be based on conversations with and observations by the director of the shelter and H.I.S. House program staff. * Placentia/Yorba Linda Unified School District (PYLUSD) adopted textbooks and a collection of library selected reference books * Reference materials * Computers and software * Bookcases, filing cabinets, and computer furniture * Internet access subscription * Part time (20 hour) project coordinator * Ad hoc technical services * Volunteers/volunteer training * School supplies (notebooks, paper, writing implements, glue, crayons, markers, clip boards, etc. * Printer, paper, ink cartridges 	<p>How many of each service/ program will we provide? How many users will be served?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 99 homework help sessions will be held at H.I.S. House Shelter * 30 children received homework help * 4 press releases distributed * 3 tutor training sessions held * 25 tutors trained * 1485 reference questions answered * Satellite library used frequently 	<p>What is the short-term benefit to the user as a result of the program/ service? What will the user do that is necessary if s/he is to achieve the long-term outcome?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Students will feel more comfortable about attending school. * Students will be better equipped to work on, and complete, homework assignments. * Students will use the satellite library frequently. * Students will feel more confident about their homework. * Students will perform better in school. * The adult residents of the shelter will use the reference materials. 	<p>What does the user say or do that reveals the achievement of the intermediate outcome(s)? What can you measure that indicates the achievement? Include the quantity for the user's actions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> * 20% of students will have improved school engagement (attendance) during the project year. * 40% of students will have experienced increased motivation to do homework during the project year. * 50% of students will have developed a positive change in attitude towards the library during the project year. * 20% of students will have developed increased self-esteem fostered by caring tutors and improved school success during the project year. * 50% of the school-age residents of H.I.S. House will have obtained and used library cards at least once during the project year.

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 1)

Design	Services/ Programs	Inputs	Outputs	Intermediate Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Intermediate Outcome(s)
	*White board and markers				* 20% of the adult residents of the shelter will have used reference materials during the project year. * On surveys 30% of school-age residents will report that they have improved academically. * On surveys 30% of the parents of these children will report that the students have had improved attendance and/or academic performance during the project year.

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 1)

Services/ Programs	Inputs	Outputs	Intermediate Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Intermediate Outcome(s)
<p>Final: Apr 1 thru Jun 30 (due July 31)</p> <p>Homework assistance for school-age residents at H.I.S. House has continued. Federal Work-Study tutors, interns and high-school volunteers have been working with students on a weekly basis.</p> <p>School-age residents have used computers provided by the library to check homework assignments, do research and improve their reading, writing and mathematical skills.</p> <p>The satellite center has been used by H.I.S. House residents at every P.A.S.S. meeting. Residents have requested that the satellite center be available for use on the weekends.</p> <p>H.I.S. House has accommodated their residents by staffing the satellite center for resident use on Saturday afternoons.</p>	<p>* Library staff (20 hours)/per week.</p> <p>*Needs of school-age residents are continually assessed through conversations with residents and the director of H.I.S. House.</p> <p>*Computers and internet access are available to school-age residents for use during homework club meetings.</p> <p>* Placentia Library has a printer/copier available for use by P.A.S.S. program members.</p> <p>*Placentia Library purchased educational games, worksheets and books for school-age residents to use. The games, worksheets and books reinforce skills that students are learning in school.</p> <p>*School-age residents have increased their typing speed and accuracy through the use of typing tutorials provided by the library.</p> <p>* 1 tutor trained.</p>	<p>* 1 year-end celebration was held for members and their families.</p> <p>*20 homework help sessions held at H.I.S. House shelter.</p> <p>*10 children received homework help.</p> <p>* 1 tutor training session held.</p> <p>* 1 tutor trained.</p> <p>* 550 reference questions answered.</p> <p>*Satellite reference center has been used frequently by school-age residents and parents</p>	<p>* Students look forward to P.A.S.S. meetings, and enjoy working on and completing their homework.</p> <p>*Students have become familiar with library services.</p> <p>*Students feel more confident about using library reference materials.</p> <p>* Students feel more comfortable about attending school.</p> <p>*Students look forward to turning in assignments and receiving their grades.</p> <p>*Students are better equipped to work on and complete homework assignments.</p> <p>*Students attend the homework sessions on a regular basis.</p> <p>*Students are performing better in school.</p> <p>*Students grades have improved significantly.</p> <p>*Adult residents have used reference materials to assist their children with their homework.</p>	<p>* A fourth and final survey has been given to each student to assess his/her attitude towards school, homework and enthusiasm for reading.</p> <p>* 90% of students have developed a positive change in attitude towards school and homework.</p> <p>* 80% of students have developed a positive change in attitude towards reading.</p> <p>*99% of students have shown a positive change in attitude towards the library.</p> <p>*90% of students have shown a significant increase in self-esteem and confidence in their intellectual abilities.</p> <p>* Reading comprehension tests were administered to all students to assess their reading level.</p>

For Help completing this form click F1 while the cursor is in any field. Also, this form answers application question 15; it must accompany application and reports.

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 1)

Third quarter: Jan 1 thru March 30 (due Apr 30)		Is project on schedule? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Is project within budget? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Revised <input type="checkbox"/>	
Services/ Programs	Inputs	Outputs	Intermediate Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Intermediate Outcome(s)			
<p>Homework assistance for school-age residents at H.I.S. House has continued. Federal Work-Study tutors, interns and high-school volunteers have been working with students on a weekly basis.</p> <p>School-age residents have used computers provided by the library to check homework assignments, do research and improve their reading, writing and mathematical skills.</p> <p>The satellite center opened at the end of January. School-age residents have used the reference center to do research for school assignments, and to read for enjoyment. The satellite reference center is the only place at H.I.S. House where school-age residents are able to work in a quiet environment.</p>	<p>* Library staff (20 hours)/per week.</p> <p>*Needs of school-age residents are continually assessed through conversations with residents and the director of H.I.S. House.</p> <p>*Computers and internet access are available to school-age residents for use during homework club meetings.</p> <p>*Placentia Library purchased educational games, worksheets and books for school-age residents to use. The games, worksheets and books reinforce skills that students are learning in school.</p> <p>* Placentia Library added software that was needed for students' school work to the laptops.</p> <p>* 8 tutors trained.</p>	<p>*33 homework help sessions held at H.I.S. House shelter.</p> <p>*20 children received homework help.</p> <p>* 2 tutor training session held.</p> <p>* 8 tutors trained.</p> <p>* 600 reference questions answered.</p> <p>*Satellite reference center has been used frequently by school-age residents.</p>	<p>* Students feel more comfortable about attending school.</p> <p>*Students look forward to turning in assignments and receiving their grades.</p> <p>*Students are better equipped to work on and complete homework assignments.</p> <p>*Student attend the homework sessions on a regular basis.</p> <p>*Students are performing better in school.</p> <p>*Students grades have improved significantly.</p> <p>*Adult residents have used reference materials to assist their children with their homework.</p>	<p>* A third survey has been given to each student to assess his/her attitude towards school, homework and enthusiasm for reading.</p> <p>* 70% of students have developed a positive change in attitude towards school and homework.</p> <p>* 60% of students have developed a positive change in attitude towards reading.</p> <p>*80% of students have shown a positive change in attitude towards the library.</p> <p>*70% of students have shown a significant increase in self-esteem and confidence in their intellectual abilities.</p> <p>* Reading comprehension tests were administered to all students to assess their reading level.</p>			

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 1)

Second quarter: Oct 1 thru Dec 30 (due Jan 31)		Is project on schedule? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Is project within budget? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Revised <input type="checkbox"/>	
Services/ Programs	Inputs	Outputs	Intermediate Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Intermediate Outcome(s)			
<p>Homework assistance for school-age residents at H.I.S. House has continued. Federal Work-Study tutors, interns and high-school volunteers have been working with students on a weekly basis.</p> <p>School-age residents have used computers provided by the library to check homework assignments, do research and improve their reading, writing and mathematical skills.</p> <p>The satellite center is not available for occupancy, therefore no reference materials are provided at this time.</p>	<p>* Library staff (20 hours)/per week.</p> <p>*Needs of school-age residents are continually assessed through conversations with residents and the director of H.I.S. House.</p> <p>*Computers and internet access are available to school-age residents for use during homework club meetings.</p> <p>*Placentia Library purchased educational games, worksheets and books for school-age residents to use. The games, worksheets and books reinforce skills that students are learning in school.</p> <p>* Placentia Library added software that was needed for students' school work to the laptops.</p> <p>* 8 tutors trained.</p>	<p>*1 Halloween story time held for school-age residents and their families.</p> <p>*1 holiday reception held for school-age residents and their families.</p> <p>*30 homework help sessions held at H.I.S. House shelter.</p> <p>*21 children received homework help.</p> <p>* 2 tutor training session held.</p> <p>* 8 tutors trained.</p> <p>* 500 reference questions answered.</p> <p>*Satellite reference center is not ready for occupancy, therefore it has not been used.</p>	<p>* Students feel more comfortable about attending school.</p> <p>*Students look forward to turning in assignments and receiving their grades.</p> <p>*Students are better equipped to work on and complete homework assignments.</p> <p>*Student attend the homework sessions on a regular basis.</p> <p>*Students are performing better in school.</p> <p>*Students grades have improved significantly.</p> <p>*Adult residents have not yet used reference materials because the satellite reference center is not ready for use.</p>	<p>* A second survey has been given to each student to assess his/her attitude towards school, homework and enthusiasm for reading.</p> <p>* 30% of students have developed positive change in attitude towards school and homework.</p> <p>* 30% of students have developed positive change in attitude towards reading.</p> <p>* 50% of students have shown a positive change in attitude towards the library.</p> <p>* 10% of students have shown a significant increase in self-esteem and confidence in their intellectual abilities.</p> <p>* Reading comprehension tests were administered to all students to assess their reading level.</p>			

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 1)

Services/ Programs	Inputs	Outputs	Intermediate Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Intermediate Outcome(s)
<p>Homework assistance for school-age residents at H.I.S. House began in September. Federal Work-Study tutors and interns have been working with students on a weekly basis.</p> <p>School-age residents have used internet access to check homework assignments, do research and practice their reading and writing skills.</p> <p>The satellite reference center is not ready for occupancy, therefore no reference materials are provided at this time.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Library staff (20 hours)/ per week. * Needs assessment completed through conversations with residents and the director of H.I.S. House. * Computers and internet access are available to school-age residents for use during homework club meetings. * Placentia Library purchased school supplies for homework club use. * 6 volunteers trained. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * A meeting was held to introduce program to H.I.S. House residents. * 4 homework help sessions held at H.I.S. House shelter. * 10 children received homework help. * 1 tutor training session held. * 6 tutors trained. * 52 reference questions answered. * Satellite reference center is not ready for occupancy, therefore it has not been used. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Students have begun to feel more comfortable about attending school. * Students are better equipped to work on and complete homework assignments. * Student attend the homework sessions o a regular basis. * Students are performing better in school. * Adult residents have not yet used reference materials because the satellite reference center is not ready for use. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> * Surveys have been given to each student to assess his/her attitude towards school, homework and enthusiasm for reading. * Reading comprehension tests were administered to all students to assess their reading level.

First quarter: July 1 thru Sept 30 (due Oct 31) Is project on schedule? Yes No Is project within budget? Yes No Revised

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 2)

<p>Design</p> <p>Data Collection Method and Schedule for Intermediate Outcome(s)</p>	<p>Target for Success for Intermediate Outcome(s)</p>	<p>Long Range Outcome(s)</p>	<p>Indicator(s) of Long Range Outcome(s)</p>	<p>Data Collection Method and Schedule for Long Range Outcome(s)</p>
<p>How will you measure the indicators and how often? * P.A.S.S. attendance and satellite reference questions will be recorded for every session and tallied monthly. * Attitude surveys will be administered every two months or on the eve of "graduation" from the shelter. * Participants and their parents will be interviewed about academic achievement and school attendance every two months or on the eve of "graduation" from the shelter.</p>	<p>What is the numerical standard for your program? What percentage of participants must achieve the intermediate outcome(s) and long range outcome(s) for your program to be a success?</p>	<p>What is the long-range benefit to the user as a result of the program/ service? What change in his/her knowledge, skills, attitude, behavior or condition will show the impact of your program? * School-age residents of the shelter will feel more confident and comfortable about doing homework. * School-age residents will feel that the satellite library is an important information resource. * School-age residents will report that the homework tutors helped them to improve their academic performance.</p>	<p>What does the user say or do that reveals the achievement of the long-range outcome(s)? What can you measure that indicates the achievement? Include a quantity for the users actions. * School-age residents of the shelter will attend P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions regularly. * Increasing numbers of school-age shelter residents and their parents will state that the satellite reference/homework center serves as an important resource for their use.</p>	<p>How will you measure the indicators and how often? * Attendance at P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House will be recorded for each session and tallied monthly. * School-age residents and their parents will respond to bi-monthly surveys about the importance of the satellite reference/homework center. * Parents of school-age participants will report academic improvement based on report card grades and teacher conferences.</p>

For Help completing this form click F1 while the cursor is in any field. Also, this form answers application question 15; it must accompany application and reports.

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 2)

Final: Apr 1 thru Jun 30 (due July 31)		Is project on schedule? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Is project within budget? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Revised <input type="checkbox"/>	
Data Collection Method and Schedule for Intermediate Outcome(s)	Target for Success for Intermediate Outcome(s)	Long Range Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Long Range Outcome(s)	Data Collection Method and Schedule for Long Range Outcome(s)			
<p>* 10 school-age residents have attended at least one meeting.</p> <p>* 121 hours of homework help has been given to students by tutors.</p> <p>* 550 reference questions have been answered.</p> <p>* Attitude surveys were administered to all school-age residents.</p> <p>* Participants and their parents have been interviewed about academic achievement and school attendance.</p>		<p>* School-age residents have communicated to H.I.S. House and Placentia Library staff the importance of the P.A.S.S. Program and the satellite reference center to their success in school.</p> <p>* School-age residents have become acclimated to the P.A.S.S. program.</p> <p>* School-age residents feel more confident and comfortable about doing homework.</p> <p>* School-age residents have expressed, to library staff, the importance of the program and the positive effect it has had on their school work.</p> <p>* School-age residents have reported that the homework tutors have helped them to improve their homework grades.</p>	<p>* School-age residents of the shelter attend P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions regularly.</p> <p>* School-age residents of the shelter have reported that the computer and internet access has served as an important resource for their use.</p>	<p>* School-age residents have attended the P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions at least once, for a total of 112 times.</p> <p>* Tutors have assisted school-age residents for a minimum of 1 1/2 hours per tutor, per week, for a total of 121 hours.</p> <p>* Parents of school-age participants have met with program coordinator to discuss their child's academic habits and grades.</p> <p>* Parents of school-age participants have reported improvements in some areas of their child's academic work and grades.</p>			

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 2)

Third quarter: Jan 1 thru March 30 (due Apr 30)	Is project on schedule? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Is project within budget? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Revised <input type="checkbox"/>
Data Collection Method and Schedule for Intermediate Outcome(s)	Target for Success for Intermediate Outcome(s)	Long Range Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Long Range Outcome(s)
<p>* 18 school-age residents have attended at least one meeting.</p> <p>* 86 hours of homework help has been given to students by tutors.</p> <p>* 600 reference questions have been answered.</p> <p>* Attitude surveys were administered to all school-age residents.</p> <p>* Participants and their parents have been interviewed about academic achievement and school attendance.</p>		<p>* School-age residents have become acclimated to the P.A.S.S. program.</p> <p>* School-age residents feel more confident and comfortable about doing homework.</p> <p>* School-age residents have expressed, to library staff, the importance of the program and the positive effect it has had on their school work.</p> <p>* School-age residents have reported that the homework tutors have helped them to improve their homework grades.</p>	<p>* School-age residents of the shelter attend P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions regularly.</p> <p>* School-age residents of the shelter have reported that the computer and internet access has served as an important resource for their use.</p>
			<p>Data Collection Method and Schedule for Long Range Outcome(s)</p> <p>* School-age residents have attended the P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions at least once, for a total of 197 times.</p> <p>* Tutors have assisted school-age residents for a minimum of 1 1/2 hours per tutor, per week, for a total of 86 hours.</p> <p>* Parents of school-age participants have met with program coordinator to discuss their child's academic habits and grades.</p> <p>* Parents of school-age participants have reported improvements in some areas of their child's academic work and grades.</p>

For Help completing this form click F1 while the cursor is in any field. Also, this form answers application question 15; it must accompany application and reports.

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 2)

Second quarter: Oct 1 thru Dec 30 (due Jan 31)	Is project on schedule? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Is project within budget? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No	Revised <input type="checkbox"/>	
Data Collection Method and Schedule for Intermediate Outcome(s)	Target for Success for Intermediate Outcome(s)	Long Range Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Long Range Outcome(s)	
Data Collection Method and Schedule for Long Range Outcome(s)				
<p>* 13 school-age residents have attended at least one meeting.</p> <p>* 75 hours of homework help has been given to students by tutors.</p> <p>* 500 reference questions have been answered.</p> <p>* Attitude surveys were administered to all school-age residents.</p> <p>* Participants and their parents have been interviewed about academic achievement and school attendance.</p>		<p>* School-age residents have become acclimated to the P.A.S.S. program.</p> <p>* School-age residents feel more confident and comfortable about doing homework.</p> <p>* School-age residents have expressed, to library staff, the importance of the program and the positive effect it has had on their school work.</p> <p>* School-age residents have reported that the homework tutors have helped them to improve their homework grades.</p>	<p>* School-age residents of the shelter attend P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions regularly.</p> <p>* School-age residents of the shelter have reported that the computer and internet access has served as an important resource for their use.</p>	<p>* School-age residents have attended the P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions at least once, for a total of 185 times.</p> <p>* Tutors have assisted school-age residents for a minimum of 1 1/2 hours per tutor, per week, for a total of 75 hours.</p> <p>* Parents of school-age participants have met with program coordinator to discuss their child's academic habits and grades.</p> <p>* Parents of school-age participants have reported improvements in some areas of their child's academic work and grades.</p>

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report (Part 2)

First quarter: July 1 thru Sept 30 (due Oct 31)		Is project on schedule? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Is project within budget? <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No		Revised <input type="checkbox"/>	
Data Collection Method and Schedule for Intermediate Outcome(s)	Target for Success for Intermediate Outcome(s)	Long Range Outcome(s)	Indicator(s) of Long Range Outcome(s)	Data Collection Method and Schedule for Long Range Outcome(s)			
<p>* 10 school-age residents have attended at least one meeting.</p> <p>* 10 hours of homework help has been given to students by tutors.</p> <p>* 52 reference questions have been answered.</p> <p>* Attitude surveys were administered to all school-age residents.</p> <p>* Participants and their parents have been interviewed about academic achievement and school attendance.</p>		<p>* School-age residents have become acclimated to the P.A.S.S. program.</p> <p>* School-age residents feel more confident and comfortable about doing homework.</p> <p>* School-age residents have reported that the homework tutors have helped them to improve their homework grades.</p>	<p>* School-age residents of the shelter attend P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions regularly.</p> <p>* School-age residents of the shelter have reported that the computer and internet access has served as an important resource for their use.</p>	<p>* School-age residents have attended the P.A.S.S. tutoring sessions at least once, for a total of 27 times.</p> <p>*Tutors have assisted school-age residents for a minimum of 1 1/2 hours per tutor, per week, for a total of 10 1/2 hours.</p> <p>*Parents of school-age participants have met with program coordinator to discuss their child's academic habits and grades.</p>			

LSTA Outcomes Project Design and Report

Certification

Grant number: 40-6426 Report: Final - Apr 1 thru Jun 30

Project name: Placentia Achieves School Success at Homeless Intervention Shelter (P.A.S.S. at H.I.S. House)

Library/Jurisdiction: Placentia Library District

Address: 411 E. Chapman Avenue

City: Placentia, CA Zip code: -928706198

Director name: Elizabeth D. Minter, MLS

Phone number: (714) 528-1925 ext. 203

Fax number: (714) 528-8236 ext.

E-mail: eminter@placentialibrary.org

Authorized signature:  Date: 07/18/2006
(Please Sign With Blue Ink)

Send ORIGINAL and three copies to:

California State Library
Budget Office – LSTA
P.O. Box 942837
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001

Quarterly Financial Report

Quarter	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
1 st Jul, Aug, Sep	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
2 nd Oct, Nov, Dec	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
3 rd Jan, Feb, Mar	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
4 th Apr, May, Jun	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>
Liquidation	<input type="checkbox"/>

Grant Award I.D.: 40-6426

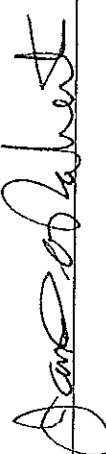
Fiscal Year: 2005-2006

Project title: Placentia Achieves School Success at The Homeless Intervention Shelter (P.A.S.S.at H.I.S. HOUSE)

Grantee: Placentia Library District

Telephone: (714) 524-8408 ext 215 E-mail: jroberts@placentialibrary.org

Completed by: James A. Roberts, M.Ed. Title: Literacy Coordinator

Signature:  Date: July 18, 2006

Send ORIGINAL (please sign in blue ink) and three copies to:
California State Library
Budget Office – LSTA
P.O. Box 942837
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001

	Current Approved Budget (1)	1 st Quarter (2)	2 nd Quarter (3)	3 rd Quarter (4)	4 th Quarter (5)	Total Expended/ Encumbered (6)	Outstanding Encumbrances at Close of 4 th Qtr. (7)	Liquidation of Outstanding Project End Encumbrances (8)	Unexpended/ Unencumbered Balance (9)
a.	\$24,927	\$6,231	\$6,231	\$6,231	\$6,250	\$24,943	\$0	\$0	(\$16)
b.	\$8,500	\$1,418	\$1,418	\$4,500	\$1,180	\$8,516	\$0	\$0	(\$16)
c.	\$14,757	\$6,500	\$2,500	\$3,500	\$2,258	\$14,758	\$0	\$0	(\$1)
d.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
e.	\$450	\$112	\$112	\$112	\$115	\$451	\$0	\$0	(\$1)
f.	\$48,634	\$14,261	\$10,261	\$14,343	\$9,803	\$48,668	\$0	\$0	(\$34)

- a. Salaries and Benefits
- b. Materials
- c. Operating Expenses
- d. Equipment
- e. Indirect Costs
- f. Total

NOTE: Failure to submit these reports within the timelines of the grant program could jeopardize receipt of final 10% grant payment. Any budget adjustments or modifications must be shown on LSTA 8 page 2. If there are no changes to the current budget, page 2 need not be returned.

Quarterly Financial Report

(Show approved budget modifications on this page)

Project Title: _____

Grantee: _____

Grant Award I.D.: _____ Fiscal Year: _____ Approval Date of Modification: _____

Budget Category	Previous Budget	Budget Adjustment	Current Budget
a. Salaries and Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0
b. Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0
c. Operating Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
d. Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
e. Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0
f. Total	\$0	\$0	\$0

NOTE: Failure to submit these reports within the timelines of the grant program could jeopardize receipt of final 10% grant payment. Any budget adjustments or modifications must be shown on LSTA 8 page 2. If there are no changes to the current budget, page 2 need not be returned.

Quarterly Financial Report

Quarter	1 st	2 nd	3 rd	4 th	Liquidation
	Jul, Aug, Sep	Oct, Nov, Dec	Jan, Feb, Mar	Apr, May, Jun	
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/>

Grant Award I.D.: 40-6426
Fiscal Year: 2005-2006


Project title: Placentia Achieves School Success at The Homeless Intervention Shelter (P.A.S.S.at H.I.S. HOUSE)

Grantee: Placentia Library District

Send ORIGINAL (please sign in blue ink) and three copies to:
California State Library
Budget Office - LSTA
P.O. Box 942837
Sacramento, CA 94237-0001

Telephone: (714) 524-8408 ext 215 E-mail: jroberts@placentialibrary.org

Completed by: James A. Roberts, M.Ed. Title: Literacy Coordinator

Signature:  Date: July 18, 2006

	Current Approved Budget (1)	1 st Quarter (2)	2 nd Quarter (3)	3 rd Quarter (4)	4 th Quarter (5)	Total Expended/ Encumbered (6)	Outstanding Encumbrances at Close of 4 th Qtr. (7)	Liquidation of Outstanding Project End Encumbrances (8)	Unexpended/ Unencumbered Balance (9)
a.	\$24,927	\$6,231	\$6,231	\$6,231	\$6,250	\$24,943	\$0	\$0	(\$16)
b.	\$8,500	\$1,418	\$1,418	\$4,500	\$1,180	\$8,516	\$0	\$0	(\$16)
c.	\$14,757	\$6,500	\$2,500	\$3,500	\$2,258	\$14,758	\$0	\$0	(\$1)
d.	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0	\$0
e.	\$450	\$112	\$112	\$112	\$115	\$451	\$0	\$0	(\$1)
f.	\$48,634	\$14,261	\$10,261	\$14,343	\$9,803	\$48,668	\$0	\$0	(\$34)

- a. Salaries and Benefits
- b. Materials
- c. Operating Expenses
- d. Equipment
- e. Indirect Costs
- f. Total

NOTE: Failure to submit these reports within the timelines of the grant program could jeopardize receipt of final 10% grant payment. Any budget adjustments or modifications must be shown on LSTA 8 page 2. If there are no changes to the current budget, page 2 need not be returned.

Quarterly Financial Report

(Show approved budget modifications on this page)

Project Title: _____

Grantee: _____

Grant Award I.D.: _____ Fiscal Year: _____ Approval Date of Modification: _____

Budget Category	Previous Budget	Budget Adjustment	Current Budget
a. Salaries and Benefits	\$0	\$0	\$0
b. Materials	\$0	\$0	\$0
c. Operating Expenses	\$0	\$0	\$0
d. Equipment	\$0	\$0	\$0
e. Indirect Costs	\$0	\$0	\$0
f. Total	\$0	\$0	\$0

NOTE: Failure to submit these reports within the timelines of the grant program could jeopardize receipt of final 10% grant payment. Any budget adjustments or modifications must be shown on LSTA 8 page 2. If there are no changes to the current budget, page 2 need not be returned.





SOUTH BAY IRRIGATION DISTRICT

505 GARRETT AVENUE, P.O. BOX 2328
CHULA VISTA, CALIFORNIA 91912-2328
(619) 427-0868 FAX (619) 425-9660

Agenda Item 34

Page 1 of 3

BOARD OF DIRECTORS

W.D. "BUD" POCKLINGTON
DIVISION 1

JAMES F. DOUD, SR.
DIVISION 2

JAMES C. ALKIRE
DIVISION 3

MARY SALAS
DIVISION 4

MARGARET COOK WELSH
DIVISION 5

W.D. "BUD" POCKLINGTON
DISTRICT REPRESENTATIVE
SAN DIEGO COUNTY
WATER AUTHORITY

July 7, 2006

Ms. Elizabeth Minter
Library Director
Placentia Library District
539 Gardenia Avenue
Placentia, CA 92870-6198

Dear Ms. Minter:

At its June 19, 2006 meeting, the South Bay Irrigation District (SBID) Board of Directors nominated Director Jim Doud to the California Special Districts Association Board of Directors, Region 6, Seat A. A unanimous vote supported this nomination. Jim is currently President of the California Special Districts Association, San Diego Chapter.

Attached is a Statement of Qualifications for Director Doud.

The Board of Directors of SBID is requesting your Board's support for Director Doud for Seat A of the California Special Districts Association Region 6 Board. I am requesting that your Board give consideration to submitting a resolution or minute order in support of Director Doud's nomination. Attached is a sample resolution for your convenience.

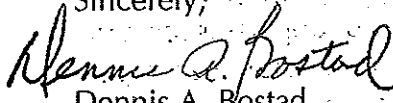
Please forward a copy of your resolution or minute order to CSDA by July 27, 2006, at the address below:

California Special Districts Association
ATTN: Paul Spitale
1112 "I" Street, Suite 200
Sacramento, CA 95814

or FAX to (916) 442-7889

It would be greatly appreciated if you would also forward a copy of the resolution or minute order to Rita Schoonderwoerd, SBID Board Secretary, for our records. Thank you for your consideration.

Sincerely,


Dennis A. Bostad
General Manager



STATEMENT OF QUALIFICATIONS
Jim Doud
Director, South Bay Irrigation District and Sweetwater Authority
San Diego County

Jim Doud has represented Region 6 as President of CSDA, San Diego Chapter, from 2005 to present. As President, Jim attends all San Diego Local Agency Formation Commission, Special Advisory Committee meetings to report on the ongoing discussions on the draft LAFCO publication, *Profiles of Special Districts in San Diego County*.

Jim has represented Division 2 of South Bay Irrigation District and Sweetwater Authority since 1995. He has served two terms as President for South Bay Irrigation District and two terms as Chair for Sweetwater Authority, and currently serves and chairs numerous committees.

Jim is an active and voting delegate to the National Water Resources Association (NWRA) and the Western Coalition of Arid States (WESTCAS).

Jim is active in the Association of California Water Agencies (ACWA) serving on the Federal Affairs Subcommittee, and ACWA's Outreach Program.

Jim is active on the Chula Vista Interagency Water Task Force, executed by the Mayor of Chula Vista in 1990, and served as Chair from 2004 to 2006.

Jim is active in the Chula Vista Chamber of Commerce, representing South Bay Irrigation District and Sweetwater Authority.

Jim is a graduate of the Special District Institute in Leadership and Management.

Jim is a retired Senior Engineer, Rohr Industries.

Jim is a member of the Retired National Management Association – Rohr Chapter.

Jim is a Korean and Cold War veteran.

RESOLUTION NO.

RESOLUTION OF THE BOARD OF DIRECTORS OF THE
(NAME OF MEMBER DISTRICT)
SUPPORTING THE NOMINATION OF JIM DOUD TO THE
CALIFORNIA SPECIAL DISTRICTS ASSOCIATION
BOARD OF DIRECTORS, REGION 6, SEAT A

WHEREAS, this district is a member district of the California Special Districts Association (CSDA); and

WHEREAS, another CSDA member district, the South Bay Irrigation District, has requested that this district support the nomination of its member to the CSDA Board of Directors, Region 6.

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED by the Board of Directors of the (NAME OF MEMBER DISTRICT) that this district supports the nomination of Jim Doud, South Bay Irrigation District, to the CSDA Board of Directors, Region 6.

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the District Secretary is hereby directed to transmit a copy of this resolution to CSDA, Attn: Paul Spitale, at 1112 "I" Street, Sacramento, CA 95814, forthwith.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the following roll call vote of the Board of Directors for the (NAME OF MEMBER DISTRICT) this _____ day or _____, 2006.

AYES:
NOES:
ABSTAIN:
ABSENT:

(SIGNATURE)

President

ATTEST:

(SIGNATURE)

Secretary



42nd Annual Placentia Heritage Festival & Parade

Community of Champions

PARADE APPLICATION

(All applications must be received no later than September 22, 2006)

Placentia Library District Board of Trustees
Name of Entry

Float Commercial
Length _____ Non-Profit

411 E. Chapman Avenue
Mailing Address

Band Color Guard

Placentia, CA 92870
City State Zip

Novelty
Description (Length and Type) _____

Elizabeth Minter
Contact Person

Equestrian How Many _____

714 528 1926 x203
Daytime Phone Night Phone

Antique Classic Auto
 Convertible Truck

administration@placentialibrary.org
Email address

Youth Organization
 Walk Vehicle

Other _____

Number of participants in entry 4

Support vehicle to Entry Yes*
If yes, describe Truck supplied by Fairway Ford

SCRIPT: In order for your entry to be recognized by the parade announcers, a script must accompany this application. An example form has been included for your convenience. (Please limit script to four (4) sentences of text). **Please complete a script and return by September 22, 2006. Scripts may be emailed to heritagefestival@placentia.org.**

Vehicles and signage are the responsibility of each entrant.

Questions, Comments and Special needs: **Please use separate page if required.**

You will receive more specific parade information, your line up position and parade pass by the first week in October. Please complete the Parade Application, Hold Harmless Agreement and your script as soon as possible and mail to:

**Bruce Hunt, Jr., Parade Chairperson
Placentia Heritage Committee
P.O. Box 805
Placentia, CA 92871**

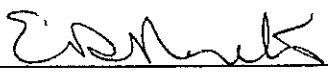
(See Reverse)

**PLACENTIA HERITAGE FESTIVAL & PARADE
INDEMNIFICATION AGREEMENT AND COVENANT NOT TO SUE**

In consideration for permission to participate in the PLACENTIA HERITAGE FESTIVAL & PARADE to occur on October 14, 2006. Placentia Library District, the undersigned hereby covenant and agree to indemnify, defend and save harmless Placentia Heritage Festival Committee, the City of Placentia, the Tri-City Park Authority, each of their officers, directors, members, agents, servants, volunteers, representatives and employees, and all other participants in the Placentia Heritage Festival & Parade from ANY and all claims, demands or liability which the aforementioned parties may sustain as a result of ANY claims, demands, cause of action, costs of judgments and/or other occurrences which may arise from the undersigned's participation in the PLACENTIA HERITAGE FESTIVAL & PARADE.

The undersigned on behalf of himself/herself, his/her sponsoring group or organization, his/her heirs and assigns, further (1) assumes the risk of any and all personal injuries and property damage which the undersigned may suffer as a result of participation in the parade or festivities; (2) waives his/her right to sue the aforementioned parties relating to any parade and festival activities; and (3) covenants with the aforementioned parties to forever refrain from instituting, pressing or in any way aiding any claim, demand or cause of action, for damages, costs, loss of services, expenses or compensation for, on account of, or in any way arising from or hereafter to arise from the undersigned's participation in the said parade and festivities. This covenant is intended by the parties to be a waiver of California Civil Code Section 1542 which reads as follows:

"A general release does not extend to claims which the creditor does not know or suspect to exist in his favor at the time of executing the release, which if known by him must have materially affected his settlement with the debtor."


Signature

June 20, 2006
Date

Placentia Library District Board of Trustees
Sponsor Group

Home Phone

Owner () Representative

714 528 1925 x 203
Business Phone

PLACENTIA LIBRARY DISTRICT BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TO: Library Board of Trustees
FROM: Elizabeth D. Minter, Library Director
SUBJECT: Library Director's Report
DATE: July 31, 2006

Activities Report:

- Jun 20 Met with Jean Lasley and Wendy Goodson to discuss Foundation activities.
- Jun 21 Met with Jean Lasley, Jeff Wilcox, Wendy Goodson and Jim Roberts to discuss recruiting a grant writer, identifying an attorney for the Friends/Foundation project and finding Development Director applicants.
- Jun 22 Attended Foundation Investment Committee Meeting.
Attended Foundation Board of Directors Meeting.
- Jun 26 Met with Richard DeVecchio to edit the job description for the Development Director.
- Jun 29 Attended Chamber of Commerce Installation Breakfast.
Attended ISDOC Membership Meeting and LAFCO Election.
- Jul 1 Saturday Manager at the Library.
- Jul 5-11 Vacation
- Jul 11 Attended ISDOC Executive Committee Meeting and LAFCO Special District Allocation Formula Committee Meeting.
- Jul 12 Participated in training for Easy Ware, the new Development Office software.
Attended the Chamber of Commerce Ribbon Cutting and Mixer at office of Dr. Jane Skuben.
- Jul 17 Attended luncheon with Independent Special Library District Directors at Palos Verdes.
- Jul 19 Participated in interviews for Development Director position.
- Jul 29 Attended the Chamber of Commerce/Ribbon Cutting for Walgreens.

Jul 22 Saturday Manager at the Library.

Jul 27 Attended Chamber of Commerce Police & Fire Breakfast.

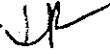
Staff Meetings:

Jun 21 Discussed new medical insurance program and developed a recommendation to the Library Board for rebates of deductibles and co-pays of specific items; reviewed the Fiscal Year 2006-2007 Budget and special projects and the use of new staff positions; and announced the Staff Appreciation Dinner.

Jul 5 Conducted by Wendy Goodson because I was on vacation. It included an update of the medical insurance program.

Jul 19 Announced the appointment of the new Development Director, discussed plans for a training program on services for the deaf and hearing impaired to be conducted by the Dayle MacIntosh Center, and discussed changes in the Passport processing procedures.

Agenda Item 37

TO: Elizabeth Minter, Library Director
 FROM: Jim Roberts, Public Services Manager 
 DATE: July 31, 2006
 SUBJECT: Program Committee Report for the month of June.

ADULT SERVICES

	June 04-05	June 05-06	YTD 04-05	YTD 05-06
NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	1	2	10	11
NUMBER OF ATTENDEES	70	60	186	232

CHILDREN'S SERVICES

	June 04-05	June 05-06	YTD 04-05	YTD 05-06
NUMBER OF PROGRAMS	21	29	250	293
NUMBER OF ATTENDEES	1,184	1,855	10,891	13,491

PROGRAM COMMITTEE


	June 04-05	June 05-06	YTD 04-05	YTD 05-06
NUMBER OF MEETINGS	0	2	0	11
NUMBER OF ATTENDEES	0	18	0	69
NEWS RELEASES	NA	1	NA	6

LITERACY SERVICES

	June 04-05	June 05-06	YTD 04-05	YTD 05-06
Total Tutors	188	170	319	310
Total Students	264	226	364	354
Total Hours	1,506	1,610	14,457	14,617

For more detailed literacy statistics, see Agenda Item 38, pages 2 of 3 and 3 of 3.

To: Elizabeth Minter, Library Director

From: Caroline Gurkweitz, Children's Librarian 


Date: for Board Meeting, July 31, 2006

Subject: June 2006 Activities in the Children's Department

TYPE OF PROGRAM	NUMER OF PROGRAMS	TOTAL ATTENDANCE
Lap Sit 2 years and under	4	87
Story Time I: 6 years & younger	4	125
Story Time II: 6 years & younger	4	183
Music Time I: 6 years & younger	4	156
Music Time II: under 6 years old	4	136
Music Time III: under 6 years old	4	110
Read to the Dogs event	1	35
Summer Reading Program Events	4	327
Summer Reading Program Registrations	—	608
Total June 2006	29	1767
Total June 2005	21	1184
Current FY to date	293	13,491
Previous FY to date	250	10,891



TO: Elizabeth Minter, Library Director

FROM: Jim Roberts, Public Services Manager/Literacy Coordinator 

DATE: July 31, 2006

SUBJECT: **Placentia Library Literacy Services (PLLS) Activities Report for the month of June.**

Tutor Training. There was no tutor training workshop in June. We had one in July, and ten high school students were trained. They are all tutoring or pending.

Families for Literacy (FFL) Program Status. There was no FFL programming in June.

Placentia Rotary Reading Enrichment Program (PRREP). PRREP tutoring has finished for this school. We recruited more than 80 PRREP tutors from El Dorado High School and Valencia high School tutored at the Library or off-site at Topaz Elementary School or at H.I.S. House, accounting for more than 2,000 hours of instruction.

Update on the two new PLLS homework clubs. Both the Topaz-Tuffree Homework Club at Topaz Elementary School and the Homeless Intervention Shelter (H.I.S. House) Homework Club were tremendously successful this school year. We plan on continuing both of them next school year in Mid-September.

English Language and Literacy Intensive (ELLI) Program Update. ELLI has ended for this school year. We were active at three elementary schools--Ruby Drive, and Topaz, and Tynes--and we had a total of fifteen tutors working with more than 200 grade school students.

Federal Work Study (FWS). Our FWS partnership with Financial Aid at Cal State Fullerton grew stronger during FY 2005-06, and will continue through June. Our Cal State Award for FY 2006-07 is \$85,000. Our FWS partnership is also very strong with Western State University College of Law as we had fifteen (15) who tutored in PLLS this school year.

LSTA Grant Denied. The PLLS LSTA Grant Application to fund additional homework clubs was denied. One of the reasons cited in the letter signed by State Librarian, Susan Hildreth, that we were not funded was that..."this project seems overly optimistic in its stated goals." Attachment 1. My e-mail response to that is Attachment 2. The good news is that I've gotten to know one of the LSTA selection committee members which could facilitate future applications.

Literacy statistics. See Agenda Item 39, Pages 2 of 3, and 3 of 3.

Placenta Library Literacy Services

Report of Growth and Progress

	June 04-05	June 05-06	YTD 04-05	YTD 05-06
Tutors				
Adult	79	81	194	169
Teen	88	89	140	151
Hours Instruction	1,410	1,520	15,867	14,617
Other Volunteer Hours	72	120	1,056	1,260
Total Hours	1,542	1,640	16,923	15,877
Training Workshops				
Workshops Held	2	0	28	23
Tutors Trained	16	0	217	181
Students				
With Adult Tutors	102	94	203	201
With Teen Tutors	100	132	141	153
In Groups	20	0	30	0
Total Active Students	222	226	374	354
Families for Literacy				
Family Students	8	5	12	12
Family Tutors	6	5	10	8
Hours of Instruction	100	60	780	760
ELLI Program				
K-6th Grade Students	0	0	200	201
Tutors for K-6th Grade	0	0	22	15
Hours of Instruction	0	0	3,254	6,487
Homework Clubs				
On-Site: Students	0	10	0	569
On-Site Tutors	0	10	0	49
Hours of Instruction	0	100	0	2,300
H.I.S. House Students	0	8	0	43
H.I.S. House Tutors	0	6	0	26
Hours of Instruction	0	200	0	1,440
Topaz Students	0	18	0	99
Topaz Tutors	0	6	0	45
Hours of Instruction	0	200	0	3,660
Total Tutors	167	170	334	310
Total Students	222	226	374	354
Total Instruction Hours	1,410	1,610	15,867	14,617

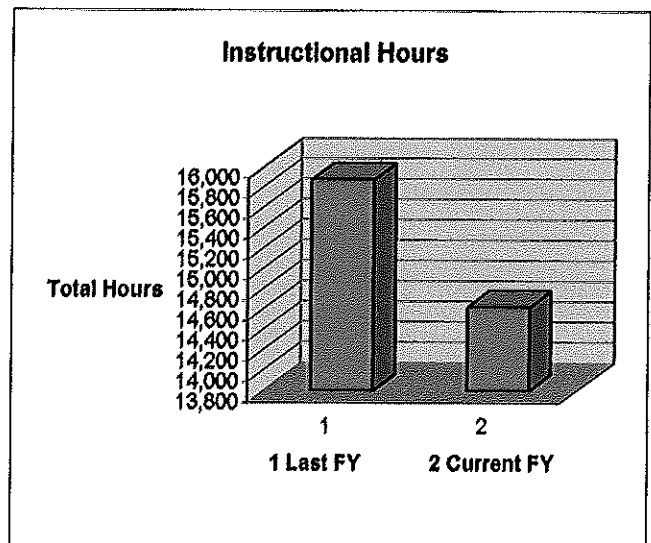
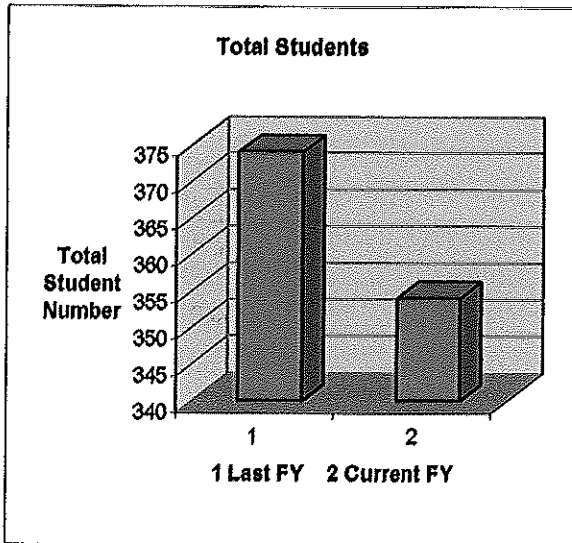


Figure 1: Diagram of a cell wall structure.

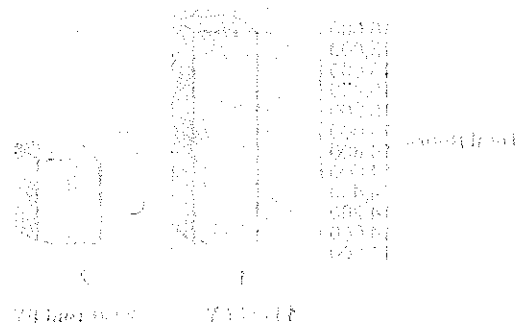
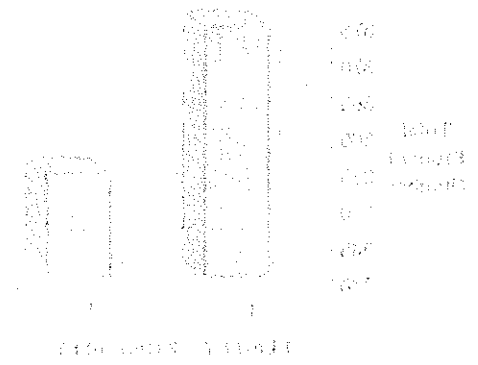


Figure 2: Diagram of a cell wall structure.



TO: Elizabeth Minter, Library Director
FROM: Mary Strazdas, Librarian *MCS*
DATE: July 26, 2006
SUBJECT: Reference and Adult Services report for June, 2006

- There were two Program Committee meetings during the month.
- Special library displays included one for the Placentia Round Table Women's Club (Bicentennial quilt), and roses. There was also a display of materials pertinent to the extremely popular *Da Vinci Code*, because the movie's release occurred at the end of May. We removed the displays on women's health and World War II.
- We began a special paperback section of adult summer reading choices. With multiple copies of titles from the paperback best seller lists, patrons have ample choices. To differentiate these titles from other collections, book spines were marked with a ladybug stamp. The books are called "best sellers" in the catalog.
- There were two programs in June. Glenna Luschei presented a poetry workshop called "Coming Home: How the Journey Changes the Poet" on Saturday, June 10, from 1 to 4 p.m. This was the second poetry workshop of the year, and it drew three patrons. Those who attended said it was a good experience.
- On Monday, June 19, six patrons attended "Hills for Everyone." Claire Schlotterbeck, Executive Director of the group Hills for Everyone, has been involved with this group for over 20 years in many capacities. She spoke about the group's goals and how Hills for Everyone works with legislators and other citizens to achieve them. Claire brought handouts and some very large photos and maps to illustrate her points. Her informal presentation made patrons comfortable to ask many questions. Patrons could also select library materials or a bibliography/webliography.

Statistical Comparisons at the Reference Desk
June FY 2005/2006

	2005	2006	YTD 04-05	YTD 05-06
Phone Reference Questions	216	170	2,278	2,424
Desk Reference Questions	1,647	1,082	18,883	19,264
E-Mail Reference Questions	4	6	64	70
Ready Reference	29	37	463	394
Instruction	55	114	616	1,155
Computer Use	2,716	2,771	28,275	31,318
Reference Books: In-Library Use	29	3,662	13,135	39,407
Patron Database Signups	242	196	2,609	2,523

TO: Elizabeth Minter, Library Director
FROM: Gary Bell, Librarian *GB*
DATE: July 31, 2006
SUBJECT: **History Room report for June**

History Room visitors in June: fiscal year 2004-2005: 0
History Room visitors in May: fiscal year 2005-2006: 6

The 2006 annuals for Valencia, Esperanza and El Dorado high schools were added to the yearbook collection.

Many books were ordered and added to the History Room's collection.

John Stahler, curator of the Bradford House, researched information on the Pound family.

Reports were made to the Placentia Round Table on the Olinda Museum in Brea and the Nisei exhibit at Fullerton's Arboretum Museum.

An inventory of books in the History Room, obtained these results of our holdings: Shelf check to follow.

Local Authors: 30 items

Fiction: 303 items

Biography: 110 items

Nonfiction: 1,314 items

On June 7th, I attended an MCLS workshop about California History Resources on the Web. This was an outstanding seminar and very enlightening as to the vast amount of sites dealing with California history, culture, missions, geography, government and more.



Placentia Library District

TO: Elizabeth Minter, Library Director
FROM: Vernon Napier, Technical Services Manager
DATE: July 24, 2006
SUBJECT: Website report for June 2006



During the first week in August I intend to convene a newly established Website Advisory Group (WAG?). Every Library interest (reference, circulation, Friends, etc.) will be represented. The purpose of the Group is too keep the website accurate, current, and fresh.

I have attached to this report some relevant statistics from our "webstats" program in order to give an overview of total usage and most viewed pages.

I have also attached a a statistical report showing the use of our principal online databases.

Vernon J. Napier
Technical Services Manager

Placentia Library District

Library Website Traffic

	June '05	June '06
Unique visitors	n/a	1,822
Number of visits	n/a	2,966
Visits per visitor	n/a	1.62
Pages visited	44,404	15,091
Pages per visit	n/a	5.08

Pages most viewed

Application for library card	n/a	69
Borrowing library materials	n/a	136
Calendar	n/a	298
Catalog	n/a	502
Community links	n/a	70
Contact Us	n/a	122
Frequently Asked Questions	n/a	223
Home page	n/a	10,915
Kids page	380	233
Literacy services	175	57
My account	n/a	533
Passport applications	607	214
Searching for information	n/a	332

Placentia Library District

On line reference resources

	Usage statistics for	May '06	June '06
Grolier Online		9	4
Encyclopedia Americana		1	0
La Nueva Enciclopedia Cumbre		0	1
America the Beautiful		0	0
Lands and People		3	0
General Reference Center		78	82
Health & Wellness Resource Center		0	10
Opposing Viewpoints		334	43
Newsbank -Newspaper search		13	30
Newsbank -Magazine search		0	0
L.A Times		35	7
N.Y. Times		20	1
Wall Street Journal		13	0
Heritage Quest		866	1320
Learning Express (Learn a test)		5	3
Novelist		127	4
Tumblebooks		12	177

TO: Elizabeth Minter, Library Director
FROM: Vernon Napier, Technical Services Manager
DATE: July 25, 2006



SUBJECT: Technology Report for June 2006

- Attended a 3 day course held at CSU Fullerton on scanning and digitizing documents and photographs
- Attended the "kick-off" program of the LSTA Grant to digitize the Library's historical photographs
- Commissioned a survey of nearby institutions to discover holdings (if any) of Placentia newspapers
- Sent off first 2 micro-film reels of The Placentia Courier to be digitized
- Installed flat screen lcd monitors on public computers
- Ordered Aquabrowser and have scheduled to go live during August
- Continued long-term project of replacing all hard plastic music cd cases with more pliable cases. At the same time we are reclassifying the music collection into more popular categories

I am pleased to report that one of our patrons complimented us (in writing!) on the display of best-seller paperbacks selected for adults wanting some vacation time reading:

"This is an awesome idea!. I'm a voracious reader and this is the greatest new service? Thank you!"

pacific clippings

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santa ana, calif. 92711

Placentia News
Weekly JUN 29 2006

BRIEFLY

Library volunteers needed

³³⁷Volunteers are needed to help run the Placentia Library bookstore, located in the lobby of the library, at 411 E. Chapman Ave.

Volunteers help to sort and price the books, stock shelves and staff the store in two-hour shifts.

Training is provided.

All proceeds from the store are used by the Friends for Library services.

For more information, call Nancy Lorie-Tollefson, who manages the store for the Friends of Placentia Library, at 714-524-7818.

pacific clippings

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santa ana, calif. 92711

Placentia News
Weekly JUN - 8 2006

Cheap insurance

³³⁷Assemblywoman Lynn Daucher's staff will hand out information on purchasing low-cost auto insurance through the California Department of Insurance for residents with cars valued at less than \$20,000, from 8:30 to 4:30 pm on June 12 at the Placentia Public Library, 411 E. Chapman Ave. and from 10 to 11 a.m. June 14 at the Placentia Senior Center, 143 S. Bradford Ave.

Information: 714-672-4734

pacific clippings

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The Register JUN 13 2006
Daily

BORROWING

³³⁷ **PLACENTIA**

Five Placentia city properties are pledged as collateral for the city's borrowing. Los Vaqueros Park and Koch Park would be unencumbered this month once the city pays a debt incurred to purchase on Office Depot property. Here is a breakdown.

\$4.5 million: Certificates of participation for traffic circulation, issued in 2001, secured by Corporate Yard, Kraemer Park.

\$11 million: Certificates of participation, issued in 2003 to refinance a previous borrowing, secured by Corporate Yard, Kraemer Park, McFadden Park.

\$6.9 million: Certificates of participation for Office Depot, issued in 2004, secured by Koch Park, Los Vaqueros Park.

pacific clippings

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The Register JUN 13 2006
Daily

³³⁷ **STANTON**

Literacy night: The city in partnership with READ/OC will hold "Family Literacy Night," from 6 to 8 p.m. Wednesday at the Community Services Center, 11822 Santa Paula St. The free session will allow tutors to work with parents and their children to promote literacy. For more information, call 714-379-0129.

Celeste Navejas
714-704-3764 cnavejas@ocregister.com

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Placentia News
Weekly **JUN 15 2006**

Unusual circumstances treated by turtle pillows

When the Placentia Round Table Women's Club held its final meeting for the year before going dark for the summer, several community service recognitions took place.

Chief of Police **John Schaefer** expressed appreciation for the club's support of the department's efforts to reduce crime in the city. He stated that crime statistics have been greatly reduced, and the department is focusing on the three known street gangs that are still active in the city. "Even one murder a year," he said, "is one murder too many," and he will strive to bring our city's tolerance down to zero.

In appreciation of the Police Department's work in protecting its citizens, Chief Schaefer was given a number of turtle pillows for his officers to give to children who experience trauma after having been exposed to unusual circumstances. The pillows were made by the members of the Crafts and Stitches' section headed by **Edna Betker** for the past several months.

Also speaking to the group was **Nathan Chappell**, executive director of the Boys and Girls Club of Placentia-Yorba Linda, who thanked the club for the \$1,000 gift recently given to the club. He said the Boys and Girls Club now owns both the building and the land, the latter having been acquired just recently from the Chapman family, who had long ago given the building to them. Since this location is in the city's redevelopment zone, plans are to sell the property and build new headquarters at Kraemer Park on a site on Walnut Street. A major capital campaign will soon be underway to raise the funds needed to add to proceeds from the forthcoming sale of the present clubhouse property.

Other beneficiaries of \$1,000 each were HIS House for the improvement of their playground, and \$1,000 to the Placentia Library District for programs planned for development by History Room personnel.

The meeting concluded with the installation of new officers for the year 2006-2007, with outgoing president **Penny Wojcik** serving as installing officer. Passing the gavel on to incoming



ELEANORE RANKIN
NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

president, **Barbara Hemmerling**, Wojcik accepted the President's history book, a hefty volume that documents the past 12 months of her leadership in the club.

President Hemmerling is supported by a full lineup of officers that include **Carole Sypherd**, first vice president and dean; **Pat Van Houten** and **Jan Schwartzkopf**, second vice presidents - ways and means; **Gerry Sandoval** and **Amanda Rozzana**, third vice presidents - programs; **Vicki Johnson**, fourth vice president - membership; and **Jan Steinleitner**, fifth vice president - sections. Also: **Karen Mangold**, recording secretary; **Jan Sutherland**, corresponding secretary; **Jannie Kirwin**, financial secretary; **Carlene Cable**, treasurer; **Peggy Barnes**, rentals chairman; **Ellie Rankin**, public relations chairman, and **Sheran Closson** and **Nancy Lone-Tollefson**, amenities chairmen.

Before closing the meeting, newly installed president Hemmerling announced that scholarships reserved from the club's \$10,000 budget have been offered to a number of seniors at our city schools. They are: from El Dorado High School, **Tabitha Dutciuc**, **Lauren Breeding** and **Chelsea Lehard**; from Melinda Bainbridge and **Sylvia Hernandez**; from Valencia High School, **Karen Nguyen**, **Estephen "Jack" Meza**, **Jonathan Nance**, **Gilberto Esquivel**, **Genae Rose Koellen**, **Gopi Pandya** and **Michelle Salas**; and from El Camino Real High School, **Jared Carmona**.

Eleanore Rankin has the latest about families, clubs and business. Call her at (714) 524-8337 or fax information to (714) 524-8660.

pacific clippings
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santa ana, calif. 92711

The Register
Daily JUN 30 2006

337

PROGRESS OVERTAKES SANTA ANA'S BOOKMOBILES



PHOTOS: LEONARD ORTIZ, THE REGISTER

THE LAST CHAPTER: Library clerk Vivian Truong helps Carlos Andres Vidarte, 3, in a Santa Ana bookmobile Thursday.

Into the pages of history

Santa Ana's last bookmobile made its final stop Thursday evening, ending a service provided for 45 years.

Nationally, use of the vans - whose mission was to get books into the hands of readers of all ages at schools and the neighborhoods where they live - has been falling off for years, a casualty of funding cuts and new ways that students encounter reading materials.

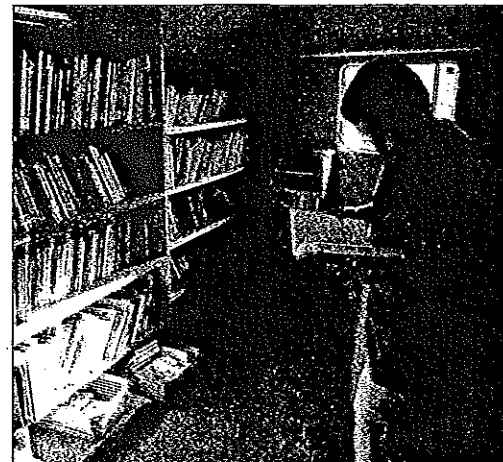
In Orange County, only Anaheim and Fullerton continue to operate routes.

Santa Ana's scheduled service has diminished in the past year, with only about 40,000 books checked out; that's down from more 53,000 books just a few years ago, according to Santa Ana library Director Rob Richard.

"So far I've read every single Harry Potter book - I feel bad because I'll never be able to check out books (from the bookmobile) any more."

**BRIAN TERRONES, 13,
WHO ATTENDS CARR
INTERMEDIATE IN SANTA ANA**

"We just assumed it would be here forever," said Wilson Elementary School Principal Robert Anguiano. "The children are really going to miss it, and so is the community." **Story on News 4**



NO MORE SEQUELS: Brian Terrones, 13, quoted at left, visits the bookmobile on its final day.

Libraries phase out bookmobiles

Demand for the service falls as costs increase. Only two cities in Orange County still have them.

BY MARLA JO FISHER
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

SANTA ANA • The nation's bookmobiles are slowly going the way of the dinosaurs, killed off not by meteors, but by new technology and rising fuel prices.

On Thursday, Santa Ana became the latest city to say goodbye to the bookmobile, citing high costs and relatively low patronage.

"Times have changed and people are using libraries differently," Santa Ana Library Director Rob Richard said. "The funding needs to go elsewhere."

Until Thursday, Santa Ana was one of only three Orange County cities with regular bookmobile routes. Fullerton has curtailed its schedules, although Anaheim has expanded its routes and rolled out more vehicles.

Across the nation, the number of bookmobiles in service declined from 997 to 864 between 1994 and 2003, even though the number of libraries grew, according to federal data. More libraries have followed suit since then, including Los Angeles Public Library, which shut down its four routes in 2004. Milwaukee ended its service in 2005.

With more patrons using electronic data services and checking out fewer books, Richard said the library is changing its focus.

STARTED IN 1905

The first bookmobile in the U.S. started in Maryland in 1905 in a horse-drawn buggy that was sometimes mistaken for a laundry wagon or undertaker's hearse. Service expanded greatly during the 1930s, when the federal government created New Deal jobs by hiring unemployed people to deliver books to rural areas by boat, road and even horseback.

Over the next 50 years, bookmobiles remained a lifeline to library service for millions of rural residents, but, as technology advanced and costs increased, they gradually began to fade, particularly in urban areas.

Santa Ana's bookmobile service began in 1961. In recent years, it decreased from two vehicles to one. The number of books lent decreased from 52,800 in the fiscal year 2001-2002 to fewer than 40,000 this year, Richard said, a handful of the 1.5 million items the system handles each year.

"At some stops, they would be there two hours and only check out 30 books," Richard said. "In some cases it would have been cheaper for us to give the books away."

Richard said the \$187,000 it costs to operate the bookmobile would be spent next year on after-school tutoring and to hire a part-time guard at the main library.

School Principal Robert Anguiano of Wilson Elementary School said his teachers enjoyed taking their students to visit the bookmobile when it came every other week, for two hours each visit.

"We just assumed it would be here forever," said Anguiano. "The children are really going to miss it, and so is the community."

Anguiano said the city had previously discontinued bookmobile services to his school, but neighborhood outcry brought it back. The bookmobile visited at 1:30 p.m., so

teachers could take their classes aboard, and parents could visit after school was over. Although Wilson has a library, the bookmobile was useful for supplementing it, he said.

"The children look forward to it, and it encourages reading," Anguiano said.

Santa Ana has the largest population of cities in Orange County - about 350,000, with only two libraries, the main library and a branch on Newport Street. Richard said the city has 49,000 square feet of library space - a fraction of that offered by other cities.

ADDING ANAHEIM ROUTES

By comparison, with less population, Anaheim is opening its sixth branch library this fall.

Anaheim's principal bookmobile librarian, Keely Hall, said her city is bucking the trend by adding routes.

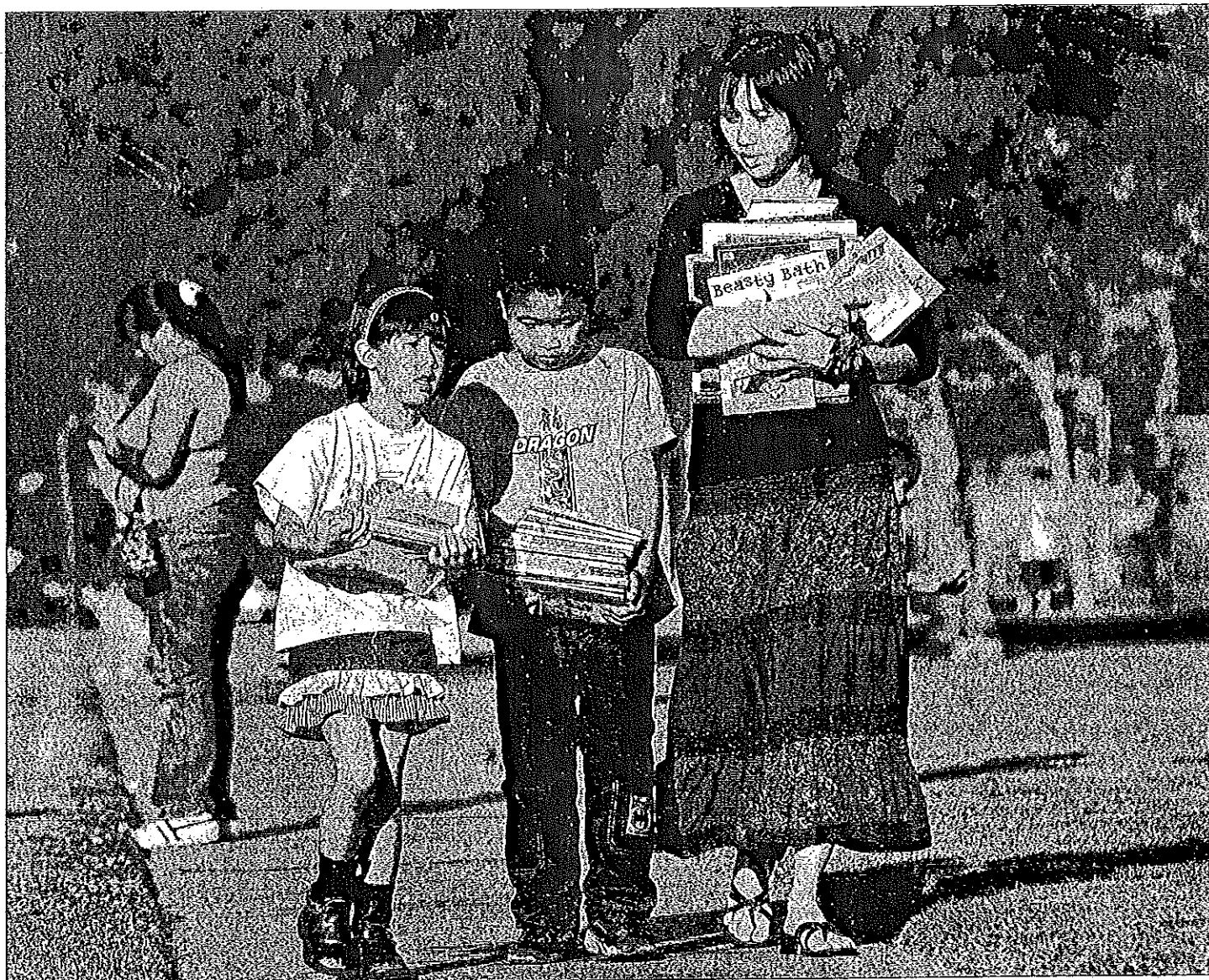
The city is using federal block grant funds to send bookmobiles loaded with 6,500 books out to crowded, low-income neighborhoods and schools, Hall said.

"In the morning, we go to schools, and the teachers bring their classes out every 15 minutes," Hall said. "In the afternoon, we go to individual neighborhoods. Last year, we circulated 120,000 items. When we have a neighborhood that's not doing well, we promote it, and if it still doesn't take off, we find a different stop."

Santa Ana supervising librarian Angie Nguyen, who has run Santa Ana's bookmobile program, said it has downsized in recent years from two large vehicles to one small van that makes 12 stops per week - three stops per day, for two hours each stop.

The library has one full-time employee assigned to the bookmobile, plus part-time library clerks and drivers.

"It's sad it has to go, but we'll still maintain it for special events, to promote reading, though won't have a regular route," Nguyen said.



LEONARD ORTIZ, THE REGISTER

LOADED DOWN: Mylinh Nguyen, 6, her brother Lam Nguyen, 8, and mother Le Ho carry books from the Santa Ana bookmobile.

First U.S. bookmobile

In 1905 in Washington County, Md., librarian Mary Titcomb wrote about the horse-drawn bookwagon service she created: "When directions were given as to painting, we had the fear of looking too much like the laundry wagon... and the man was strictly enjoined, not to put any gilt or scroll work on it but to make even the lettering, 'Washington County Free Library,' plain and dignified, directions carried out only too well, for in the early days of our wagoning, as our man approached one farm house, he heard a voice charged with nervous trepidation, call out 'Yer needn't stop here. We ain't got no use for the dead wagon here.' Suffice it to say, that we promptly painted the wheels red, and picked off the panels of the doors with the same cheerful color."

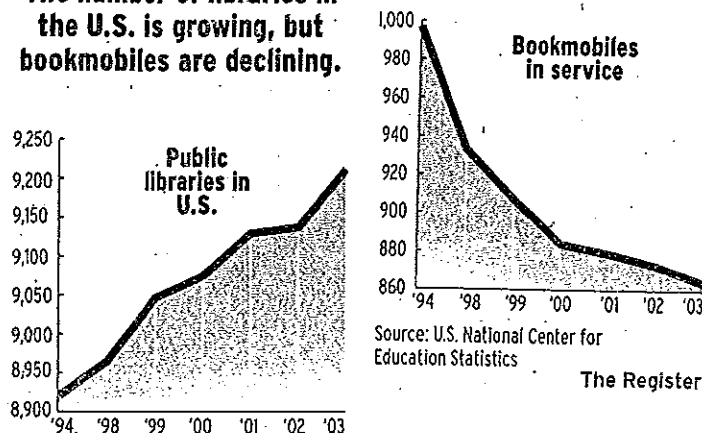
Packhorse librarians

In 1934, Leslie County, Ky., established a Packhorse Library, by which up to six carriers would travel by foot, mule, rowboat or horseback to isolated cabins and schools, toting books in suitcases or saddlebags. Federal funding paid for 500 books and four young women paid for a service to mountain people. "Rain or shine, the four packhorse librarians trail many miles through the stony, tree-lined creek beds to supply 57 isolated communities with practically the first library books they have ever had," according to a Works Progress Administration release.

Boatmobile in Alaska

Two boatmobiles visit children along the Kuskokwim River in the summer, when their families are working in salmon fishing camps. The Kusko Book Express floating library travels up and down the river with books packed into plastic tubs, sorted by grade level.

The number of libraries in the U.S. is growing, but bookmobiles are declining.



Local artist finding success

William Galvez' classical style has its appeal.

BY SUSHMA SUBRAMANIAN
PLACENTIA NEWS-TIMES

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William Galvez grew up in a family of artists.

When he was eight, he cleaned his brother's watercolor brushes and worked in his sisters' art studio. Two of his sisters were oil painters, and one was a sculptor. His father restored statues and frescoes.

So it was natural that Galvez, who is in his late 50s, took up his own paintbrush at 10.

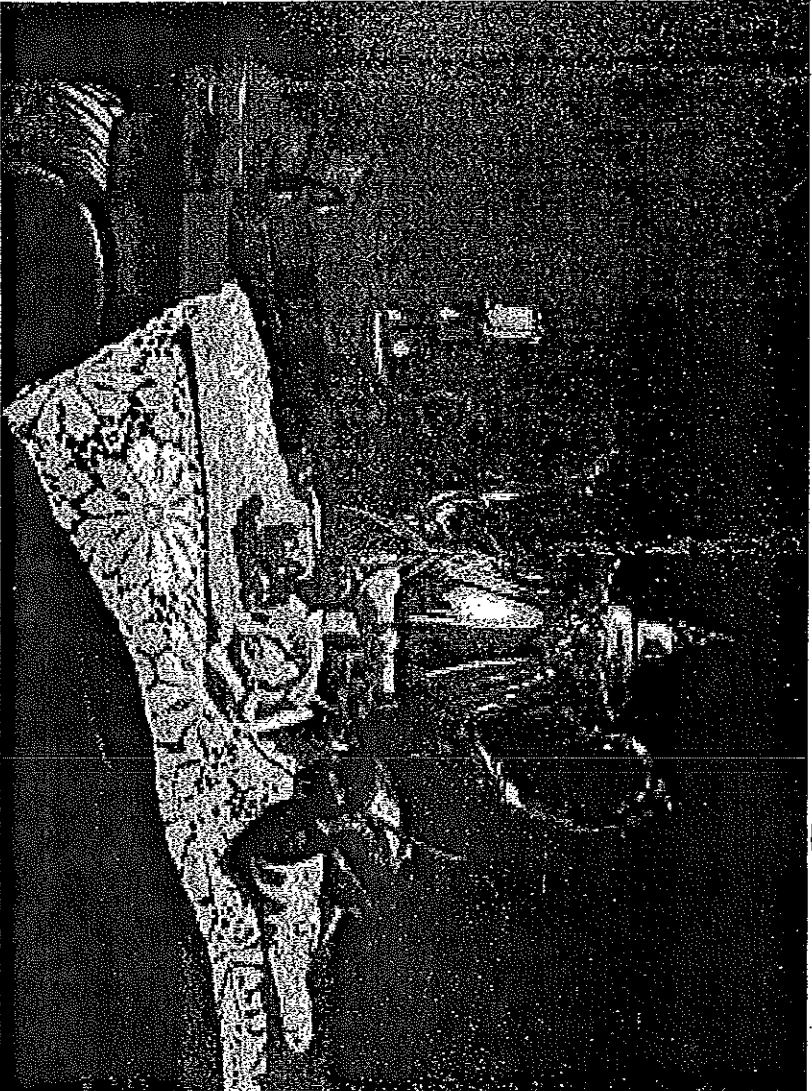
His work is displayed at the Placentia Library this month.

While most artists worry about starving, Galvez, a 30-year Placentia resident, has found a way to make a living off of his paintings.

Galvez paints traditional still lifes. He paints in the Flemish style, which involves layering glaze on a painting to give it a trompe l'oeil effect.

It's the type of decorative art that is often hung in homes and restaurants to imitate a classical style, instead of using a print of a Rembrandt painting.

The paintings displayed at the Placentia Library include a still life of apples on a counter, a



STILL AND REAL: 'Still Life with Yellow Rose' by William Galvez exemplifies the artist's style.

COURTESY OF WILLIAM GALVEZ

and palm trees.

The paintings sell for \$950 to \$9,000. His work has now been shown at 76 galleries.

Galvez's art is also displayed at the South Coast Plaza art gallery in Newport Beach and at the Figuras Galeria de Arte in Cali, Colombia.

Because his style of involves so many layers of paint and

paintings in the works now, each in a different stage of development.

His influences are Rembrandt, Velasquez and Roberto Lupetti.

He has planned an exhibition next year at the Colombian consulate in Los Angeles. Galvez was trained at the Conservatorio de Bellas Artes

then that he would grow up a professional painter.

"As I take it, talent is a devotion to what you like. If you have that passion, to me, that's the talent," he said. "I wouldn't know how to live without painting."

When he moved to the United States in 1968, he studied the fine arts at Cypress College.

He also started working as a health-care consultant in Cypress.

Galvez hung up one of his paintings in his office.

When a doctor at the hospital saw his work, he told him he should be an artist and not working in health care. The doctor, who owned the Pomeroy Art Gallery in Cypress, offered to set up a show for his work.

Word about Galvez' paintings spread and he began to receive orders for paintings.

As he continued to exhibit more of his work, he began to think he could paint professionally.

Galvez has continued since then to work on and off in health care. But recently, he got so many calls for his paintings that he decided to quit his job and just be a painter, he said.

As he began spending the majority of his time painting, his style also changed.

"I'm looser now. I'm more assertive," he said. "I don't spend so much time preparing sketches."

But his style will never become too loose or too abstract, he said.

"I will always be a traditional artist," Galvez said. "I want people to see my painting of an apple and to think, 'that is an

Take a Westside libraries quiz

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Our local libraries have a rich history. See how much you know.

Call me old-fashioned. I like libraries. Unlike most of the younger generation, I prefer to do my research in a library with books and magazines, and I love talking to the librarians. I start with the Internet, but to see the *whole* book or to creep around in the stacks, feel the pages and smell the ink, I head to the library. It makes such a difference!

Thus, I was interested in the history of the libraries in our cities here on the Westside. Each library has a different story and a different specialty. See how well you do on this Westside Libraries History Quiz.

Answer either:

- A. Buena Park
- B. Cerritos
- C. Cypress
- D. La Palma
- E. Los Alamitos/Rossmoor
- F. Seal Beach/Mary Wilson.

(There may be more than one right answer. Answers at the end of this column.)

1. Opened in September, 1969, this location has a collection of Japanese books.

2. Library service in this city started in December, 1921. It has a music collection that it received from Chapman University in 1994. The collection is accessible to patrons.

3. This location is not a part of the Orange County Public Library system.

4. Early staff members of this city's first library recall cows smudging the library's windows with their noses after the library opened.

5. This city's library houses a First Ladies Collection. It consists of a permanent display of portraits of all the First Ladies of our nation, a bronze plaque with quotations of all living first ladies, biographies, and personal items as well.

6. Its first location opened in January, 1935. The branch was moved in 1962 to its current site, where in July of 1985, it burned down because "some wayward fireworks" had found their way into the book drop.

7. Frier



KATHRYN ATKINS
WESTSIDE STORY

erated the first purpose-built "Friends" bookstore. During the county bankruptcy in 1995, this Friends group raised \$46,000 from the community to keep the library open on its regular schedule.

8. This branch has the distinction of having the local Woman's Club Library Division, instead of a "Friends of the Library" group to raise funds.

9. It was named after a different woman than the woman of the same name who was one of the original "Supremes."

10. This library offers a large genealogy collection which was bequeathed to them by the Leisure World Branch in 1995 when they left the county system.

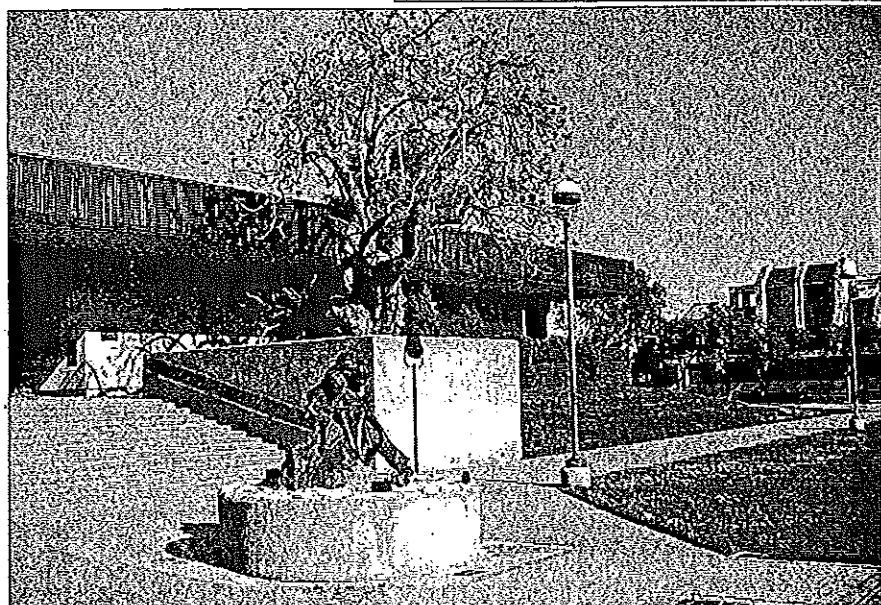
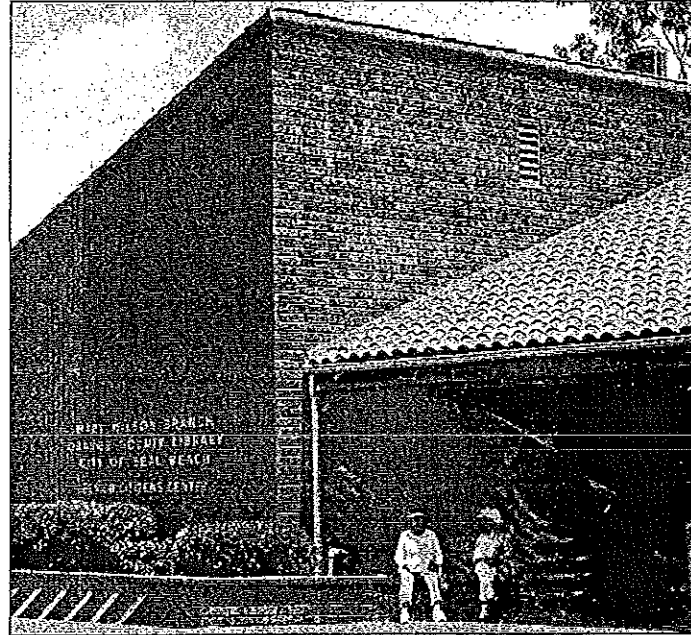
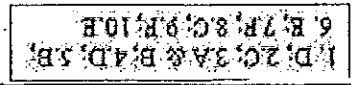
SO HOW DID YOU DO?

The Orange County Free Library (as it was called then and later changed to Orange County Public library in 1967) was established Dec. 9, 1919 by the Orange County Board of Supervisors. There are 32 branches in the Orange County Public Library system, while Buena Park is its own Library District.

Let your fingers do the walking at these websites: www.oc-pl.org; www.buenapark.lib.ca.us; www.ci.cerritos.ca.us, and then please visit one of these great Westside libraries

Experience Cypress' music collection or look up your ancestors in the Los Alamitos/Rossmoor Branch. Or just enjoy that good old solid feeling of holding a book in your hands. Sources: History of OC Public Library 1921-2001 by Dani Porter, Santa Ana, CA 2001.

Kathryn Atkins, a Rossmoor resident, writes about history for Westside Weekly. Contact her at westsideweekly@ocregister.com



The Cypress Library (at left) and Mary Wilson Seal Beach Library (below).

KATHRYN ATKINS
FOR WESTSIDE
WEEKLY

Tracking where rail plan went wrong

Now that the City Council is ready to kill OnTrac, it's worth taking a look back at its history to see how the city came to find itself in such a difficult fiscal position the last couple of years.

As many now know, OnTrac was a dreamed-up railroad project that was supposed to solve Placentia's railroad problems, such as traffic congestion and, later, the blowing of whistles.

OnTrac is now the subject of a conflict-of-interest scandal under investigation by the Orange County District Attorney, which has resulted thus far in the indictments of former city officials Chris Becker and Bob D'Amato by the Orange County grand jury.

I put together the following timeline of OnTrac events, drawing much of the information from The Orange County Register, Placentia News-Times and grand jury testimony.

1995 - Warren Siecke (traffic engineer consultant for Placentia) presents the idea of lowering the railroad tracks in the city to Bob D'Amato and Chris Becker. He recommends they talk to Cliff Lampman, who he worked with in the Alameda Corridor Project that involved a similar railroad situation.

1997 - Cliff Lampman presents his solution to the city to lower the railroad tracks using the same model as the Alameda Corridor Project. He is retained by the city to study the trench issue and begins assembling a team of

OMAR RUIZ
GUEST COLUMN

consultants.

December 1999 - Chris Becker sets up his corporation, Chris Becker and Associates (CBA). He does so months in advance of OnTrac getting approved, apparently in anticipation of assuming the role of executive director of OnTrac. CBA lists its president as Chris Becker; vice president as Chris Becker; treasurer as Chris Becker; and secretary as Chris Becker.

April 2, 2000 - OnTrac is approved by City Council. OnTrac is a joint powers authority created to include the surrounding cities of Anaheim, Yorba Linda, and Fullerton for the stated purpose of lowering the railroad tracks. None of the other cities participate. Michael Maertzweiler is mayor and Chris Lowe is mayor pro-tem at the time; both are part of the OnTrac board.

April 18, 2000 - Becker distributes OnTrac agenda reports and signs them as executive director; one week before that title is approved for

April 25, 2000 - Becker is made executive director of OnTrac but continues as public works director. City Administrator Bob D'Amato sells the other board members on the idea as being a cost-saving measure, reasoning there will be one person taking a dual role, calling it a "win-win" for everyone. City Attorney Carol Tanenbaum finds out that Becker is executive director of OnTrac after

accidentally walking in on the first OnTrac meeting. She is the first to realize the possible conflict of interest. Shortly after, she tells D'Amato that she plans to send to OnTrac attorneys George McFarlin and Jim Anderson a request for an opinion on the issue. D'Amato is dismayed and questions her actions.

June 8, 2000 - Tanenbaum faxes McFarlin and Anderson a request for an opinion on the apparent conflict of interest, following up on her warning. She receives no response and resigns a few weeks later. McFarlin said his firm never considered the matter; Anderson told the grand jury that he "more than likely" told Becker there was no conflict.

February 2001 - James Preusch, the OnTrac finance advisor, suggests that Placentia Finance Director Steve Brisco create a separate checking account for OnTrac to better control its spending; this is a similar model used in the Alameda Corridor Project. Brisco rejects the idea.

April 1, 2001 - Placentia residents get a rude awakening when BNSF trains start blowing the whistles.

2001 - Because of a software issue, Brisco is no longer providing monthly finance reports, hindering the city treasurer's oversight function.

October 18, 2001 - Cliff Lampman, head consultant for OnTrac dies. Gil Hicks, former director of the Alameda project, fills in his role.

November 2002 - Placentia Councilman Norman Eckenrode suggests the council

explore outsourcing the police department due to lack of funds. Placentia citizens vehemently oppose this and begin to look into funding issues in Placentia.

January, 2003 - Scott Brady is Mayor of Placentia and is automatically part of the OnTrac board. He learns from D'Amato that Becker's compensation includes 1.5 percent of estimated construction costs of \$300 million (which worked out to advance pay of \$200 an hour), plus 15 percent of fees from additional consultants (never billed), giving Becker a better income than the U.S. Secretary of Transportation.

May, 2003 - Businessman Carlos Perez begrudgingly loses his property at 305 S. Melrose when he is evicted through eminent domain for construction of the Melrose underpass.

March 2006 - Becker and D'Amato are indicted on two felony conflict of interest counts. Chris Becker is charged for his effort as a city employee to get himself hired as executive director of OnTrac. Bob D'Amato is accused of helping Becker get that position and covering up the conflict of interest.

May 31, 2006 - Becker's and D'Amato's arraignments are postponed until July 11, 2006. Placentia City Administrator Bob Dominguez calls on council to dissolve OnTrac.

Omar Ruiz is a marketing consultant and graphic artist who lived in Placentia for 31 years.

ports that the city will run out of money by December 2004 if current spending habits continue. Brisco will later admit to him that money was improperly transferred from the city's general fund to OnTrac, the probable reason why \$987,000 in park funds were spent on OnTrac, along with many more millions from the general fund.

July 2004 - The Orange County District Attorney begins an investigation into possible conflict of interest involving Becker and the city of Placentia.

January 3, 2006 - Steve Brisco resigns as Placentia finance director. Despite repeated questions about his handling of city finances, he attributes his resignation to unfair pressure from citizens.

February 2006 - The Placentia City Council, members of city staff and others are subpoenaed to testify in front of the grand jury in the District Attorney's investigation.

March 5, 2003 - Becker resigns as public works director to continue as executive director of OnTrac, after much public outcry. A new position is created inside the city administration to help with OnTrac. Kristin Kassouf is awarded the new position of management analyst to assist Becker and OnTrac instead of having Chris Becker and Associates hire its own help.

December 2003 - D'Amato retires.

March 2004 - Placentia Councilman Chris Lowe proposes studies to outsource public works services.

June 1, 2004 - Interim City Administrator Ray Griest submits his financial audit to the council and re-

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Placentia News
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Cheap insurance

³³² Assemblywoman Lynn Daucher's staff will hand out information on purchasing low-cost auto insurance through the California Department of Insurance for residents with cars valued at less than \$20,000, from 3:30 to 4:30 pm on June 12 at the Placentia Public Library, 411 E. Chapman Ave. and from 10 to 11 a.m. June 14 at the Placentia Senior Center, 143 S. Bradford Ave.

Information: 714-672-4734

³³² **PLACENTIA**
Auto insurance: Members of Assemblywoman Lynn Daucher's staff will discuss low-cost auto insurance available through the California Department of Insurance for cars valued at less than \$20,000. The meeting will be at the Placentia Public Library, 411 E. Chapman from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. June 12, as well as at the Placentia Senior Center, 1143 S. Bradford Ave. from 10 to 11 a.m. June 14. Information: 714-672-4734.

Cindy Arora
714-704-3706 carora@ocregister.com

Stars shine brightly at women's group

³³⁷**T**he Stars Among Us theme of the Business Associates Awards Night sponsored by the Placentia Stars chapter of the American Business Women's Association made everyone feel like a star.

The feeling started from the moment one walked into the banquet room of the Foxfire Restaurant, where this popular annual event took place.



ELEANORE RANKIN
NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

The room was dazzlingly decorated in black and white and made an appropriate backdrop to the six honorees whose pictures were presented in the program, on large posters and on the big screen.

All six honorees hold positions in businesses located in Orange County, with Mary Strazdas of the Placentia Library the only honoree from Placentia.

Mary worked part-time in the reference department of the Placentia Library, until

she finished her degree in 2004, at which time she was promoted to librarian of that department.

Besides assisting patrons with finding reference material, she arranges staff schedules for the adult and chil-

dren's desks, coordinates adult programming and as-

sists in the selection of materials for the library collection.

Library Director Elizabeth Minter accompanied Mary to the podium when her name was called and proudly introduced her to the audience, attesting to her ability to provide exceptional customer service to library patrons. Event co-chairman Bryna Dambrowski presented her with a star memento award.

Also witnessing the proceedings and formal presentation were library trustees Jean Turner and Gaefen Wood, staff members Wendy Goodson, Alex Hernandez and Estella Wnek, and myself, as Library Friends' board member.

The next time you're in the library, do walk over to the reference desk and congratulate Mary on attaining this distinction.

Speaker/author Mimi Donaldson — a dynamic and funny speaker — gave a fast-paced, laugh-a-minute presentation based on her new

book, "Bless Your Stress: It Means You're Still Alive."

She clicked off ways to recognize stress triggers and how to avoid them before they take over.

Started in 1982, the Placentia Stars chapter today has 40 dedicated members.

Its mission is to bring together businesswomen of diverse occupations and provide opportunities for them to help themselves and others to grow personally and professionally through leadership, education, networking support and national recognition.

Men have been admitted to membership since 1987, and I tracked down the chapter's

only male member, Carl Jeffers, who serves as treasurer. He kept a watchful eye on the funds gathered by ticket sellers.

He was brought into the chapter by his wife, Sandee, who was already a member, and currently serves as the chapter's vice president.



COURTESY OF ELEANORE RANKIN

WINNER: Placentia Library Director Elizabeth Minter, left, congratulates Mary Strazdas, as she receives a Shining Star award from the Placentia Stars chapter of the American Business Women's Association.

pacific clippings

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Our ballot

Here is a summary of the Register's recommendations on the two statewide initiatives and two local measures on today's ballot. We apply our values of limited government, fiscal responsibility, respect for the individual and free markets to the propositions.

More detailed analysis of these propositions is on our Web site:

www.ocregister.com/opinion.

•Proposition 81. Statewide.

It would float library bonds costing the general fund \$1.2 billion over 30 years, or \$40 million a year. The state shouldn't borrow more money while it's running an annual structural deficit of up to \$5 billion a year. Proponents insist that Prop. 81 is needed to promote literacy. But funding is best-addressed at the local level. Vote no.

•Proposition 82. Statewide.

It's a badly designed preschool program from actor/director Rob Reiner. Taxes would be raised \$2.4 billion a year to transform California's existing, mostly private system, which already covers about 66 percent of preschool-age students, into a bureaucratic, mostly state-run system that would cover 70 percent of

preschool-age students. The increase of just 4 percentage points, or 22,000 children, would cost \$109,000 for each child added to preschool enrollment rolls, according to a February study by the Reason Foundation. Vote no.

•Measure A. Countywide.

It would prohibit the county of Orange from using eminent domain to "acquire a property from a private owner, without that owner's consent" to give the property to "another private party." Eminent domain could still be used for public purposes, such as to build a road or a police station. Vote yes.

•Measure B. Yorba Linda.

It would put major projects up for general vote, thus giving voters control over the development of other people's property, which we believe is a violation of the Fourth Amendment right not to be "deprived of life, liberty, or property, without due process of law." Vote no.

MORE ONLINE

We'll be blogging from select party gatherings on Tuesday evening. Watch the OrangePunch blog at www.ocregister.com/opinion



**ELECTION
2006:
State and
local
measures**

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Hills talk: The Chino Hills State Park is part of 81 miles of open space stretching from the Cleveland National Forest to the 605 Freeway in Whittier. Claire Schlotterbeck, executive director of Hills for Everyone, will speak at 7 p.m. June 19 at the Placentia Library, 411 E. Chapman Avenue, about proposals for the land. Information: 714-528-1906, ext. 209

Sushma Subramanian
714-704-3796 or ssubramanian@ocregister.com

pacific clippings

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332 PLACENTIA

Auto insurance: Assemblywoman Lynn Daucher's staff will provide information on low-cost auto insurance available through the state for residents with cars valued at less than \$20,000, from 3:30 to 4:30 p.m. June 12 at the Placentia Public Library, 411 E. Chapman Ave. and from 10 to 11 a.m. June 14 at the Placentia Senior Center, 143 S. Bradford Ave. Information: 714-672-4784.

Sushma Subramanian
714-704-3796 ssubramanian@ocregister.com

Yes, your vote still counts

Election Central is not amused. Lately, we've been hearing a lot of fuss and whining, "What, we have to vote again?" "My vote doesn't count, why should I?" ... blah blah blah. So, you're feeling a little blasé about the primary; EC gets it. Maybe you doubt the need for democracy at all. Don't give up! Getting

7
days till
election

involved – yes, after years of therapy EC can use that word without breaking out in hives – is one of the best ways to re-energize your love of the political process. What? Boo-hoo, you don't know where to go or what to do? Check out an opportunity below – does EC have to do *everything* for you? – to pitch in, and then get some rest; next week, we vote!

STATEWIDE

PROP. 81

This initiative would authorize the state to borrow up to \$600 million for renovating and building public libraries. Bond debt is repaid from the state's general fund – the pot of money, funded by income and sales taxes, that pays for schools, health care and other services.

Backers: Yes for Libraries, www.yesforlibraries.com

Detractors: California Taxpayer Protection Committee, www.protecttaxpayers.com



Local governments would spend an estimated \$320 million for matching contributions to library projects. **Yes vote** means the state could borrow the money for library projects, but the state would have more debt to repay, meaning that money would not be available for other services. **No vote** means the state couldn't borrow the money for libraries. Library projects either would not get done, or would have to be paid for out of existing funds, or would have to rely on another funding source not yet known, but the state's debt would not grow.

\$ at stake: The state would spend an estimated \$1.2 billion out of general taxpayer funds over 30 years to repay the \$600 million principal and the \$570 million interest on the bonds.

STATEWIDE

PROP. 82

This initiative would establish voluntary half-day preschool education for all 4-year-olds, and would pay for it with a 1.7 percent income tax on individual Californians who earn more than \$400,000 a year, or couples who earn more than \$800,000 per year.

Backers: Yes on 82, www.YesOn82.com

Detractors: Stop the Reiner Initiative - No on 82, www.NoProp82.org

\$ at stake: High-income taxpayers would pay an additional \$2.1 billion per year in taxes to fund the preschool program.

Yes vote means high-income earners will pay higher taxes and more children will have the opportunity to attend preschool.

No vote means high-income earners' taxes will remain the same, and preschool opportunities will not be expanded statewide.



COUNTY

Measure A

This ordinance would prohibit the county from using eminent domain to seize private property without the owner's consent just so they can turn the property over to another private party.

Backers: Orange County Supervisors Chris Norby, Bill Campbell, Lou Correa, Tom Wilson and Jim Silva

Detractors: No one. In a May 15 Register editorial, the measure was hailed as "remarkably simple for a government statute."

\$ at stake: No financial impact

Yes vote means if the county wants to take a private property through eminent domain, it cannot be taken to build a mall.

No vote means things stay status quo.

YORBA LINDA

Measure B

The initiative would amend the Yorba Linda general plan and zoning code to require voter approval for any significant developments that increase housing densities.

Backers: The measure is sponsored by the Yorba Linda Residents for Responsible Redevelopment. Those in favor of the measure said it will protect property rights, give voters a say in major changes in residential densities and create accountability.

Detractors: A "No on B" committee, sponsored by the Orange County Housing Providers, says it represents business owners, residents, developers and retired city officials who argue that if Measure B passes, the cost of living would increase for residents because they will have to pay extra tax dollars for elections.

\$ at stake: Opponents have raised at least \$113,500. Supporters have raised about \$7,800 in cash and \$2,400 in in-kind contributions.

Yes vote gives residents the final say over major land-use decisions through special elections.

No vote: Keeps decision making with elected officials.

GET INVOLVED

As Election Day nears, the Orange County Asian Pacific Islander Community Alliance is seeking volunteers to act as poll monitors.

Monitors will observe polling places throughout the county to ensure voting goes smoothly, especially in communities where voters may choose to cast their ballot in a language other than English.

Anyone interested in becoming a monitor must attend a training session in Garden Grove on Thursday, or Saturday, and be prepared to volunteer from 7 to 10 a.m. on Election Day, June 6. Bilingual ability in Vietnamese, Korean, Chinese and Spanish is a plus. There is a \$30 stipend. Information: Jennifer Kuo, 714-636-9095

QUESTION

Q: Which candidate for the 4th District Board of Supervisor seat chose urban theorist Jane Jacobs as a role model in the Register's Voter Guide?

A: Read the Register's online Voter Guide at www.ocregister.com/voterguide to find out, and to learn about all the candidates in contested races on Orange County ballots.

Answer to our last trivia question: President Reagan is cited most often - after mom or dad - as a role model.

Need Voter Guide trivia help? Contact our state editor and quizmistress, Holly Heyser hheyser@ocregister.com or 916-449-6044.

Late arrival

332

Placentia's on-again, off-again rail project, OnTrac, could receive a funding boost with \$15 million in state grants now available. But the city's lingering debts persist.

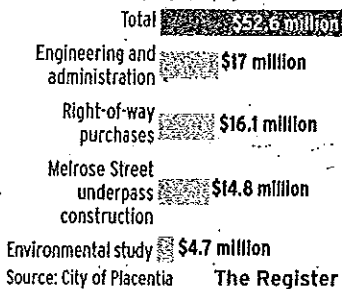
By **SUSHMA SUBRAMANIAN**
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

PLACENTIA • An infusion of state funds – four years later than expected – has the city poised to pay off money it borrowed for its mounting rail project debts.

The city had dreams of sinking its train tracks into a trench to increase safety, lessen pollution and ease traffic backups.

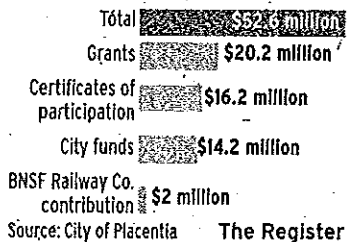
The project, called OnTrac, forced the city to borrow millions of dollars and dig deep

Breakdown of projected total spending



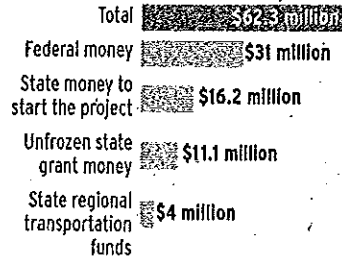
Source: City of Placentia The Register

Breakdown of projected spending by funding source



Source: City of Placentia The Register

Total grant funding approved



Source: City of Placentia The Register

into its coffers, which in turn generated mistrust and criticism among residents.

Eventually, out of money, the project essentially stalled.

Now, \$15.1 million in state grants, promised years earlier, is in hand – just in time to pay off some debts that linger and fund other elements that remain active.

Another debt – some \$16 million in city loans to the OnTrac agency – may be written off, an acknowledgment that the money may never be repaid.

Digging a trench

The problem: Daily traffic jams at 11 city rail crossings created traffic and safety hassles and split the city. In coming years, train traffic was only expected to increase.

The proposal: The City Council in 1998 decided to move most of Placentia's rail lines underground instead of bulldozing houses and businesses for overpasses and underpasses. Officials figured a five-mile trench would sink the trains and be built faster. This plan included underpasses at Melrose Street and Placentia Avenue as its first projects.

Full speed ahead

Money promised: In June 2001, the state allocated \$28 million for the project – eventually estimated at \$543 million.

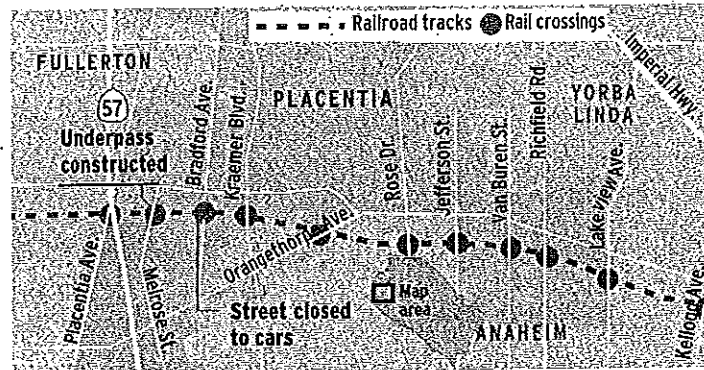
Money spent: Officials pursued the Melrose Street and Placentia Avenue underpasses based on the pledge, even when costs exceeded initial estimates. First, the city secured land for the then-\$16.4 million Melrose underpass. Then, in September 2002, with Melrose construction a month away, the city initiated eminent domain proceedings to acquire land needed for an underpass at Placentia Avenue.

Financial crisis

Money withheld: Facing its own fiscal crisis, the state reneged on paying \$11.8 million of the \$28 million promised – leaving the city unable to meet obligations. The first \$16.2 million of the grant had paid for work on the still unfinished Melrose underpass, for which costs had risen. Part of the reason: higher-than-expected right of way land costs.

Rail projects

Placentia completed one underpass before its effort to eliminate rail crossings stalled. Since then, the city has closed Bradford Avenue to through traffic. Officials hope to complete one more underpass with a new infusion of federal money.



The Register

Scrambling for cash: To save the project, the city delved deep into its own coffers and began to cut back on costs. OnTrac consultants agreed in March 2003 to defer their pay until the city received more grant funding.

The city grabbed payments for land sales and settlements and had \$3.3 million from another state grant shifted from the Placentia Avenue underpass to help pay for Melrose construction and a street closure at Bradford Avenue.

In February 2005, the city increased efforts to curb spending, ordering new bids for management.

Borrowing money: With no money available to pay \$5.7 million owed for an Office Depot building bought for the Placentia underpass, the city issued bonds secured by park mortgages. An audit said the city had hit its debt ceiling.

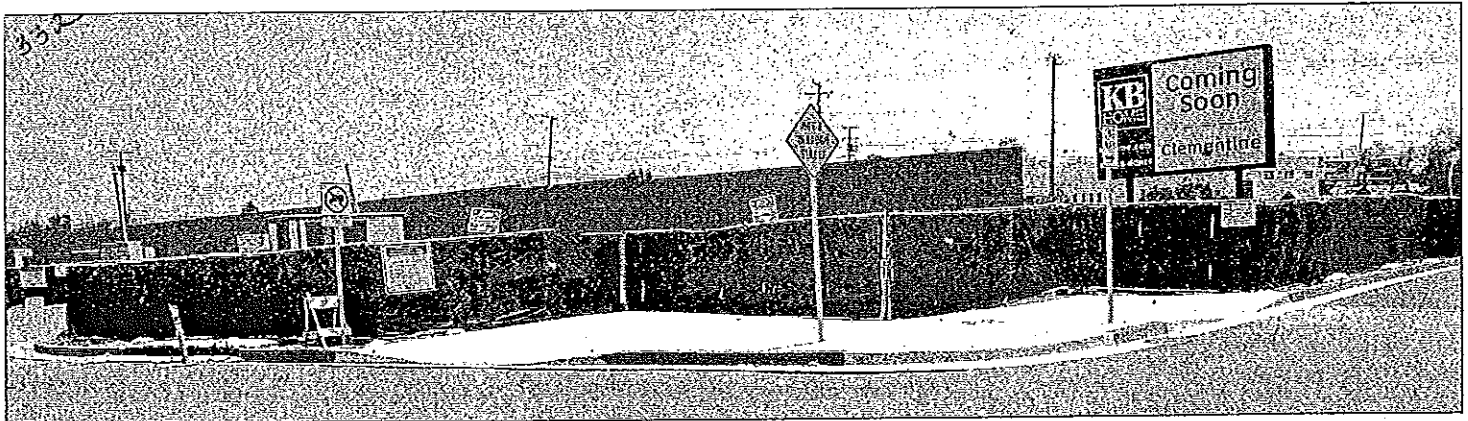
At last, more money

Federal grant: When a federal transportation bill in August gave Placentia \$31 million for the effort, far less than expected, officials moved toward building overpasses and underpasses rather than a trench.

The city fired its federal lobbyist and hired new consultants.

Money unfrozen: The city got the rest of its state funding last month. The funding, totaling \$15.1 million, includes \$11.8 million in frozen OnTrac funding and \$3.3 million for other city projects. It will be used to pay off debts incurred in the building of the Melrose Street underpass and the purchase of the Office Depot property. The city also expects to pay for a pedestrian bridge at Bradford Avenue.

Finances: In the city's proposed budget for the 2006-07 fiscal year, staff has asked for two staff positions that were cut during the city's financial shortfalls and more money for other programs that were cut, including a program to clean up graffiti. The proposed budget, at \$27.7 million, calls for a 5 percent increase in expenditures over the last fiscal year. After paying off \$6.9 million in Office Depot debt and financing costs, the city's bond debt will come down to \$13 million.



HOUSING PROJECT: Work has begun at Bradford and Santa Fe avenues in Placentia.

YGNACIO NANETTI, THE REGISTER

A call to redevelop

Placentia will change its downtown after its mistakes on rail project, mayor says.

By **SUSHMA SUBRAMANIAN**
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

PLACENTIA

Downtown redevelopment is the way the city can bounce back from its rail project mistakes, Mayor Scott Brady said Tuesday in the annual State of the City address.

The city's multimillion-dollar OnTrac project to sink train tracks into a trench is dead.

But a reinvented downtown, centered around the tracks, is moving forward.

Brady called for the city to build an interim train station within two years to prepare for a proposed Metrolink station.

Developer TOD Properties LLC has already acquired some \$43 million in real estate with another \$20 million in escrow — covering more than 18 acres of

property, Brady said.

In about a month, the city plans to vote on a specific plan for the redevelopment project. In two months, the first independent investment in downtown, the Santa Fe Courtyard condominiums, will go on the market.

"Redevelopment is no longer a possibility; or a potential or a subcommittee. It is inevitable," he told a crowd of about 300 people.

Brady also called for new community centers, careful city spending and lobbying for state funding for overpasses and underpass at rail intersections.

But it might be years before Placentia can afford to build underpasses and overpasses at each of its rail crossings.

Problems with OnTrac caused the city to cut services and mortgage parks, and led to the March indictment of two

CITY PROJECTS

Bradford pedestrian bridge: Construction on the \$3.2 million project begins this summer.

Park plan: Residents will vote in November on park improvement.

Boy & Girls Clubs site: The clubs are in negotiations with TOD Properties LLC to sell their clubhouse. They will then begin efforts to build a new center in Kraemer Park.

former local officials.

"If the City Council knew then what it knows now, different decisions would have been made," Brady said.

In weighing the costs and benefits of OnTrac, he touted \$70 million received through lobbying efforts, while lamenting that the project had "tar-

nished the reputation of certain individuals" and "shaken the confidence of many of our citizens."

Council members were misinformed about OnTrac and did little to uncover the truth, Brady said, pointing to the council's complacency as the reason for OnTrac mismanagement and the deterioration of the city's downtown even as Brea and Fullerton turned their aging centers around.

"I think it's a very bold move to admit that mistakes were made after being given erroneous information," said Greg Sowards, a founder of Citizens for a Better Placentia, a residents group that has criticized OnTrac management. "This is something that we've been asking for, for three years."

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Prop. 81: A New Chapter for the State's Libraries?

The \$600-million bond would allow upgrades but hardly close the book on financial need.

By NOAM N. LEVEY
Times Staff Writer

When then-state Sen. Dede Alpert tried to place a state library bond on the ballot two years ago, she was forced to make a bargain: The governor would support the bond if she

agreed to wait until 2006 for it to go before voters.

Alpert, a San Diego Democrat who was about to be termed out of office in 2004, agreed. So she has waited. And so have the libraries.

On June 6, California voters will finally decide whether to invest \$600 million to modernize aging public libraries around the state.

Proposition 81 — the only bond measure on the ballot next month — has won the broad backing of teachers, businesses, organized labor and the state's major newspapers. (Gov. Arnold Schwarzenegger, who signed Alpert's bill to put the bond on the ballot, has not endorsed the proposition, for reasons his campaign office would not explain.)

With little organized opposition, its champions are cautiously optimistic that they can win the simple majority needed on election day.

Still, Proposition 81 won't come close to meeting the massive needs of library systems statewide, which a 2003 survey by the California State Library put at \$4.4 billion. As much as anything, the little-known measure illustrates the ongoing struggles of California's public libraries: always competing for attention in a state whose schools, highways and other civic institutions are also scrambling to make up for years of underinvestment.

For years, that has meant waits like Alpert's. It also means that although other ballot mea-

[See *Libraries*, Page B9]

[*Libraries*, from Page B1]

asures can draw millions of dollars from supporters, a library bond campaign can plan to attract only about \$500,000, campaign manager Les Spahn said.

Though Proposition 81 is the third state library bond since 1988 — the others, which were smaller, passed — it is dwarfed by the more than \$80 billion in outstanding debt that the state has accumulated in recent years to pay for upgrades to schools, universities, prisons, water projects and other public works, according to a recent report by the state Legislative Analyst's Office.

It is also a fraction of the \$37.3-billion package of infrastructure bonds that state leaders have agreed to put on the November ballot.

"We wish we could do more," said Nancy Mahr, a spokeswoman for the Los Angeles County public library system, the state's largest, which recently calculated it would cost nearly \$850 million to modernize its 84 branches, many of which were built in the 1960s or earlier.

"We don't have the money," Mahr said. "That's just the unfortunate truth."

Los Angeles County, which operates libraries in numerous cities as well as in unincorporated areas, might get enough money from the bond to renovate just a handful of branches. Local library systems would have to commit local dollars to get any state money through the bond.

With the dearth of state money, some cities, such as Los Angeles and San Jose, have gone directly to their voters to raise money to modernize their libraries, often with stunning results.

Prop. 81 Would Help Upgrade State's Libraries

In Los Angeles, which is just completing a \$317-million modernization program to build and renovate 63 branches, library usage has jumped 70% in the last decade, according to library statistics.

And across the city, distinctive new branches have rapidly become community icons, as well as study centers, book repositories and neighborhood gathering places.

But library systems like Los Angeles County's that have failed to raise substantial local funds — instead turning to the state and in some cases private sources — have had to settle for less.

That's not surprising, said Alpert, a former local school board member who served in the Legislature for 14 years beginning in 1990.

"Our school facilities were in such dire straits, and we were so far behind, that they needed to take precedence," she said recently, remembering years of unsuccessful efforts to convince legislative leaders to boost spending for libraries as well.

"They would sort of pat you on the head and tell you it was a priority, but it just didn't make the cut," recalled Alpert, who finally settled on the \$600-million figure after negotiating with the governor and other legislative leaders in 2004.

Nowhere are the results of the disparities more striking than in the corner of South Los Angeles where the Harbor and Century freeways meet.

On one neighborhood corner stands the Mark Twain branch library, a strikingly modern, purple-and-gold monument to the city of Los Angeles' decision to reinvest in its libraries.

The city spent \$3.2 million to build the nearly 10,000-square-foot branch, which opened in 2002 and is now a bustling community center where children flock to do their homework, read magazines and play on computers.

Sixteen blocks away, the Woodcrest branch of the L.A. County system bears the forlorn

City's state soon to be stated

332

signs of a municipal building nearing its 40th birthday.

A drab beige brick box with a handful of computers, worn furniture and torn carpeting, Woodcrest is on the list of county branches most in need of an upgrade, according to a 2001 county study.

But with two dozen other county branches in even more dire need, no upgrade is planned.

Today, there are some who still believe that the state should leave library investment to local communities.

"They are local institutions and they ought to be locally funded," said Jon Coupal, president of the Howard Jarvis Taxpayers Assn., which is opposing Proposition 81.

The association frequently opposes bond measures, which it complains saddle taxpayers with unnecessary debt. Because of the cost of servicing the debt, Proposition 81 would end up costing the state more than \$1.2 billion over the next 30 years.

But there is growing consensus that the state must make up for years of underinvestment in all its public institutions, including libraries and schools.

"We like both," said Fred Glass, spokesman for the California Federation of Teachers, the state's second-largest teachers union and one of Proposition 81's leading backers.

Soon to be "wrapped up and tied together" is the sixth annual Chamber of Commerce State of the City breakfast scheduled at 7:15 a.m. Tuesday, May 23 at the Alta Vista Country Club, according to Elizabeth Toller, the chairman's event. "With everything in place and the invitations in the mail, we have little else to tie up except to register the responses as they come in," she said at the committee's final meeting held this week. The event's theme is "Placentia: The All America City" and will feature Mayor Scott Brady and Dr. Dennis Smith, superintendent of the Placentia-Yorba Linda Unified School District.

So if you haven't made your reservations yet, call the chamber office at 528-1873 and finalize it, now. Cost of the breakfast event is \$30.

According to Chairman Toller, response to the committee's efforts to increase sponsorship has yielded a record number of generous sponsors, with Identity Crisis leading the way. This young company's two partners, David Moyle and Tom Under-



ELEANORE RANKIN
NEIGHBORHOOD NEWS

hill, have been actively participating in the planning of this event from the very start.

Having welcomed just a few weeks ago a new son

whose sleeping habits have not yet caught up with those of the rest of the family, Moyle nonetheless has managed to make all the committee meetings, albeit at times sleepily when the meetings have been scheduled early in the morning. Aiden Drake weighed in at a healthy and substantial 8 pounds, 14 ounces.

Also celebrating a new addition to the family is Chamber President Glenn Baldwin and wife Kathi. Their grandson, Liam Edward Baldwin, son of Ryan and Tracy Baldwin, is the younger Baldwins' first child. This youngster checked in at a strapping weight: 10 pounds, 2 ounces. Looks like the chamber is developing a new generation of member/entrepreneurs for

the future.

With many clubs and organizations nearing the end of their clubs' fiscal years, several notices of new officers are reaching my desk. I'd like to include one of them in this column and catch up on the others at another time. Eleanor Barbour and Nancy Lone-Tollefson of our town were recently installed as president and first vice president, respectively, of the Del Norte Garden Club, which meets here regularly.

I was honored to serve as installing officer for the ceremony held last week. Others elected and/or appointed to board positions were Julie Astle, second vice president; Virginia Ferrara, recording secretary; Cindy Dell, treasurer; Ann Taylor, corresponding secretary and Pat Porter, parliamentarian.

The Placentia Stars chapter of the American Business Women's Association will hold its annual Business Associates Awards night at the Foxfire restaurant in Anaheim Hills on Tuesday, May 23, at 6:00 p.m. Cost is \$35. For reservations, send your check payable to ABWA/



COURTESY OF ELEANORE RANKIN

Elizabeth Toller, chairman of the Chamber of Commerce State of the City breakfast.

Placentia Stars, to 1441 Michelson, Long Beach, CA 90805, or if you need more information, call Carol Peterson at 529-5299.

Members of the Placentia Presbyterian Church are hanging their piñatas and getting ready for a summer of fun. Fiesta-themed Vacation Bible School will take place daily, June 26 to 30, from 9 a.m. to noon, and registration is in full swing for 4th through new 6th graders. Fun, friends and fellowship are just a few reasons to join in the fiesta. Cost is only \$15 and includes a VBS shirt. Call Children's Director Becca Harmon at 528-1438 for more information or to register.

Ian McHugh, an El Dorado alumnus, will graduate from Cal State Fullerton with honors. Ian is the son of Barbara and Pat McHugh and the grandson of Pat Irot, one of the volunteer curators in the Placentia History Room at the library. When Ian graduated from El Dorado High School, he received a scholarship from the Placentia Round Table Women's Club that launched him on his quest for higher learning. Ian now plans to enroll in graduate school at UC Riverside.

Eleanore Rankin has the latest about families, clubs and business. Call her at (714) 524-8387 or fax information to (714) 524-8660.

Placentia's redevelopment dilemma

The city's reserves are growing, but it is losing businesses whose loans would have been forgiven if they stayed.

By **SUSHMA SUBRAMANIAN**
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

PLACENTIA *3/3/06*

City redevelopment coffers have swelled by \$101,000, although officials would have preferred to have lost the money and kept the business that paid it.

Bradford Village Commercial Center owner Ben Karmelich Jr. paid the money for a loan that would have been for-

given had he stayed in the city.

The deal is one of three Placentia made in recent years in which businesses got loans they wouldn't have to repay as long they stay in the city and meet a few other conditions.

The Redevelopment Agency gave Karmelich a \$75,000 loan in 1999. Beginning in the sixth year of the deal, 20 percent of the loan would be written off each year. In exchange, Karmelich was required to fix up his property.

In 2002, Karmelich signed a new deal when he refinanced his mortgage. That restarted the clock, so the loan and interest came due when Karmelich sold the land last week.

In addition to Karmelich's deal, the city:

- Gave Don A Vee Jeep Eagle Inc., at Orangethorpe and Placentia avenues, a \$200,000 loan for renovations, a sign and land purchases in 1997 in a deal that also brought the auto dealer \$403,200 in sales-tax rebates through 2004.

- Sold CTS Appliance an adjacent property for expansion in 2004 and paid \$81,000 to relocate existing tenants. The land was priced at \$100,000 less than it cost. The discount is to be paid through half the company's sales taxes over \$25,000 a year. If the company leaves in less than 10 years, it would repay any balance on the amount. As yet, the company hasn't expanded and no payments have been made.

City spokesman Matt Reynolds said the deals are incentives to ensure proven sales-tax producers - such as the auto dealer - stick around.

"Car dealers like auto malls, and obviously Placentia and Orangethorpe isn't as glitzy" a location as they would like to have, he said.

pacific clippings

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santa ana, calif. 92711

The Register
Daily **MAY 13 2006**

SCOS Southern California Orchid Species Society: 2 p.m. May 14. Free.
Placentia Public Library, 411 E. Chapman Ave., Placentia. (714) 991-8661

Adobe museum open

By DIANE REED
PLACENTIA NEWS-TIMES

The newest thing in Anaheim Hills is also the oldest.

The Ramon Peralta Adobe, built in 1871, is the Hills' first museum.

Sandra Day and Connie Cooper-Ness, president of the Santa Ana Canyon Historical Council, are co-chairwomen of the museum. Cooper-Ness is a descendant of the Lugo, Peralta, Yorba and Dominguez families.

"We've worked very closely on this project," Day said.

The most striking feature of new museum is a 40-foot mural by Matthew Barrios Southgate, 34. The Orange resident also decorated the Bowers Kidseum and the La Habra Children's Museum.

"Someone saw my work in La Habra and contacted me about this project," Southgate said. "Ranger Sam Edwards came up with the ideas."

Although Southgate's arms are weary from working on the ceiling-level mural, he hopes to paint on the

exterior in the future.

He said he's learned more than just local history during many late-night painting sessions.

"As far as I can tell," he said, "there are no ghosts in the Peralta Adobe."

The museum opened with a benefit gala, "Fandango Del Canyon," two weeks ago at the adobe on 6398 E. Santa Ana Canyon Rd. The \$23,380 in proceeds went to The Ramon Peralta Adobe Museum Operating Endowment Fund.

Many descendants of early Orange County families attended the opening, enjoying entertainment by Flamenco Bravo.

Founding families represented were: Grijalva, Yorba, Peralta, Ruiz, Botiller, Sepulveda, Dominguez, Fuentez, Murillo, Celaya, Reyes, Carrillo, Lugo, Burke, Cooper, Negrette, Vasquez, Navarro, Alvarez, Rowland and Ames.

The 125-year-old building, which houses early California artifacts. Many of them are on loan from pioneer families. Their descendants will conduct museum tours.



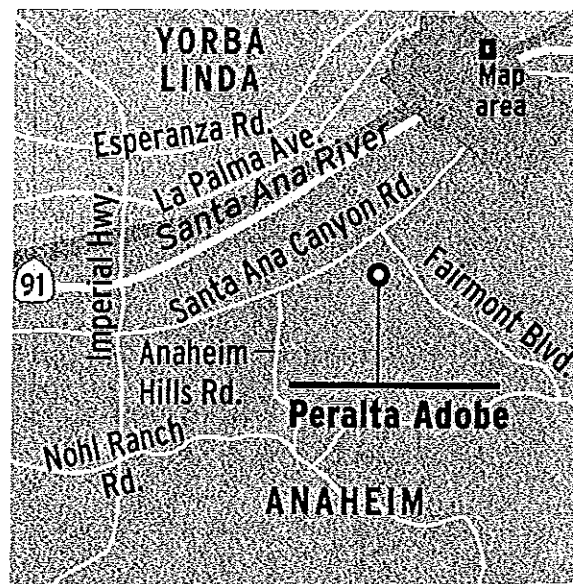
The artist

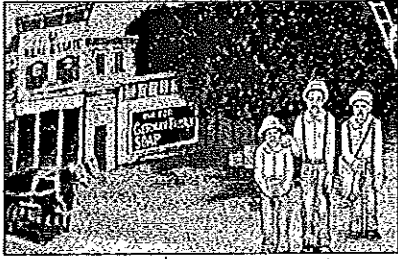
Matthew Southgate painted the mural at Peralta Hills Adobe Museum. Here are photographs from the mural's chronology:



1769

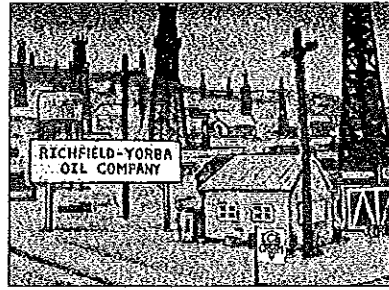
Gaspar de Portola's expedition stopped near the Santa Ana River just west of Anaheim Hills on its way to San Diego.





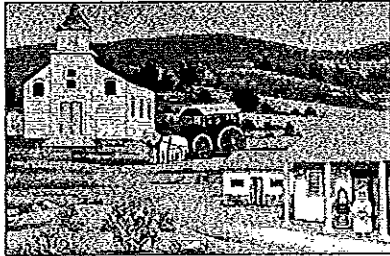
1857

German immigrants settled a colony that would become Anaheim. It was incorporated in 1878 as the county's first city.



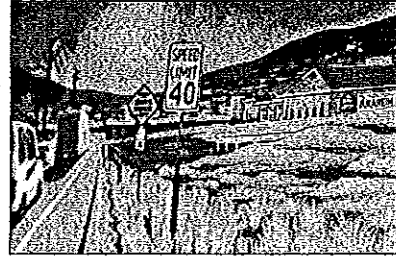
1919

Oil is discovered in the area and the Richfield-Yorba Oil Company raises hundreds of derricks.



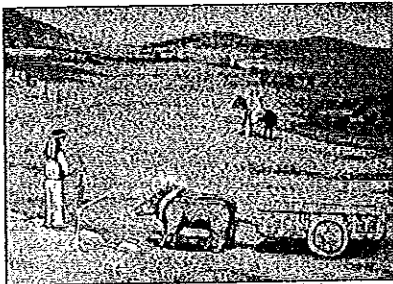
1860

San Antonio de Padua Adobe Chapel was dedicated and blessed by the Rev. Sir Don Blas Raho, CM of the Diocese of Los Angeles and Monterey.



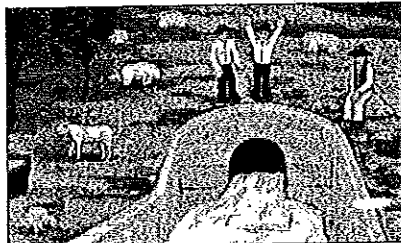
1960

Riverside (91) Freeway links Los Angeles, Orange and Riverside counties.



1871

Ramon Peraita built an adobe during the Rancho Period. It is the only one still standing in Santa Ana Canyon area.



1880

Agricultural period brings irrigation and crops including almonds, tobacco, flax, and later citrus, which flourish in the canyon.

pacific clippings

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The Register
Daily MAY - 6 2006

Southern California Species Society: 2 p.m. May 14. Free. Placentia Public Library, 411 E. Chapman Ave., Placentia. (714) 991-8661.
UPCOMING

A patient hand

Allie Smith's early struggles gave her the patience she needs to help 'special needs' children.

By SUSHMA SUBRAMANIAN
PLACENTIA NEWS-TIMES

Allie Smith knows what it's like for kids who struggle with reading.

Her mother Linda had to repeat the words "cat" and "hat" over and over to her, pointing at each letter while sounding them out. Her mother home-schooled her in a makeshift upstairs classroom at their Fullerton home.

Smith has a learning disability caused

by a developmental delay. Because she lacked the short-term memory capacity to grasp concepts quickly, constant repetition was the only way she could store those terms in her long-term memory.

That's why Smith is just as patient with kids in her classroom who have a hard time learning to read. They don't have learning disorders, but many of them have been identified as special-needs students who require longer and more rigorous kindergarten classes than other students because their parents speak only Spanish.

"I like working with them because I feel like I'm helping them more, because I'm teaching them English," said Smith, 21. "I

TUTOR

FROM PAGE 1

really like working with them a lot."

"Allie has a lot of patience. It's good for them so they don't have someone hurrying them," her mother Linda said.

Smith, who last month was named the Placentia Library's tutor of the year, corrects papers, hands out stickers, plays with the kids and cleans spills at a Ruby Drive classroom. It was the first time the library handed out the award. Last week, she won a Spirit of Volunteerism Award from the Volunteer Center for Orange County.

"She dedicated over the last two years over 1000 hours of volunteering at Ruby Drive in their kindergarten; that's really more than any other tutor in our program," said Placentia Library literacy coordinator Jim Roberts. "It's something she has really blossomed in, and she didn't think she could do it."

"I don't know what I would do without her because she's very nurturing for our kids and helping them one on one," said

Judy Chase, a kindergarten teacher at Ruby Drive. "The kids love her. They think she's one of their teachers."

Smith may not have the best memory, but she does remember many of her favorite times with the kids.

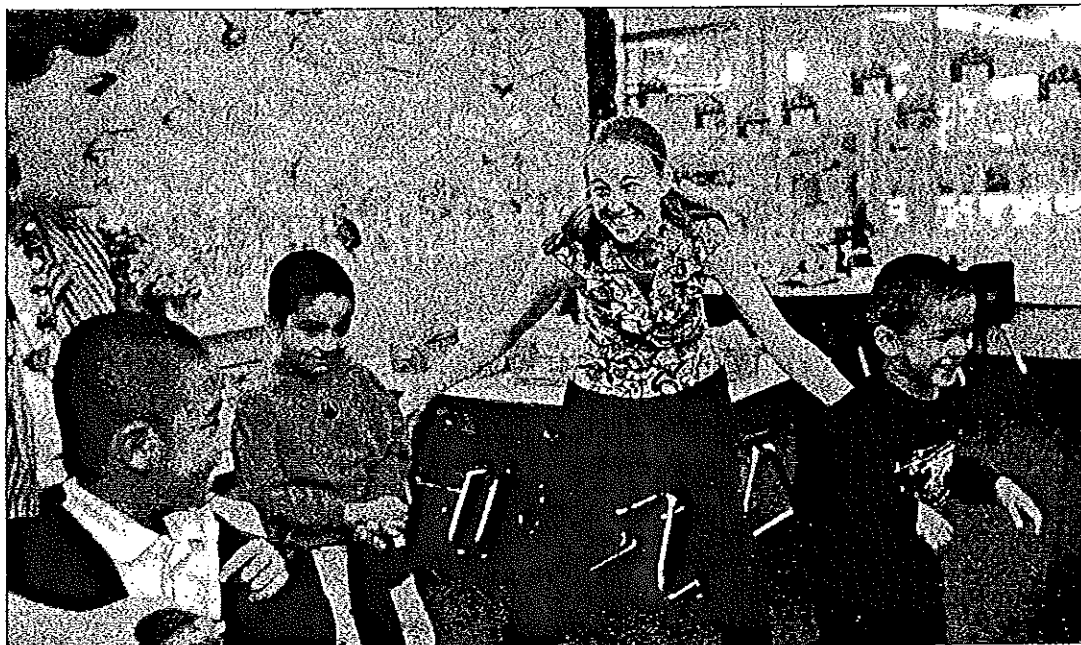
She remembers a boy named David who came into class one day with a grimace but whom she made feel better with a long talk. She remembers a new kid at school who got up in the middle of lunch and wanted to hold her hand and walk around the class until his mom came to pick him up.

And then there was a boy playing with cars by himself; she offered to be his friend.

"I'll sit on the floor with them, even if I'm wearing a dress," she said. "I just sit down and play with them, especially when they're by themselves. They shouldn't be left alone when they're little."

Smith signed up to be a tutor two years ago through the Placentia Library literacy program.

Her mother wasn't sure how much she could help out, but she asked Roberts if he could find her a classroom where she



MARILYNN YOUNG/PLACENTIA NEWS-TIMES

YOU'RE IT: Volunteer Allie Smith, 21, plays the freeze game with kindergarteners Marcos Padilla and Dominic Freshour (right). Teacher Judy Chase plays with Gabriel Gomez.

could fit in.

"There was not one second of hesitation to take. Allie on board from the very beginning," her mother said. "That as a mom was so great."

Roberts decided on a classroom at Ruby Drive for kids who were identified as needing extra help.

"That was perfect because the kids look up to her, and they don't recognize anything that's different with her," Roberts said. "The kids look at her as their teacher."

The kids only rarely ask her about her hearing device, Smith said.

After her first year, she enjoyed tutoring so much that she doubled her volunteer time, working daily during school hours. She sees 88 students a day.

Now she's trying to learn Spanish, and she's preparing for a test that would allow her to be a paid teacher's aid through the Placentia-Yorba Linda School District.

Meanwhile, the library will continue to hand out the Tutor of the Year award yearly, Roberts said.

"It's made us realize we really do have some really special volunteers," Roberts said.



MARILYNN YOUNG/PLACENTIA NEWS-TIMES

AWWW: Volunteer Allie Smith, 21, gets a hug from kindergarteners Tyler Sanders, Shandiz Moradi and Marcos Padilla at Ruby Drive Elementary School.

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The Register
Daily APR 26 2006

CITY NAME

PLACENTIA

Placentia is Latin for "acceptable things." The phrase is sometimes translated as "pleasant things" and serves as the name of these cities:

Placentia, Newfoundland

Placentia, Calif.

Piacenza, Italy

(formerly called Placentia in Latin and English)

ALMANAC

SALES-TAX REVENUE

337 PLACENTIA

Placentia's redevelopment project is focused on increasing the number of stores in the city and thereby increasing its sales-tax revenue, which has remained low because of the city's design as a bedroom community. Taxable retail sales in Orange County in 2005 reached \$49.5 billion. Placentia sales were at \$285.3 million in 2005.

Here's how Placentia's sales-tax revenues compare to other cities its size, about six square miles. Figures are from city finance directors.

- Cypress:** \$10.8 million
- La Habra:** \$8.2 million
- Laguna Hills:** \$7.7 million
- Placentia:** \$5.2 million
- Dana Point:** \$4 million

Placentia seeks fund watchdog

Staffers asked for formula for panel that includes residents and council members.

By SUSHMA SUBRAMANIAN
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

PLACENTIA
City Council members moved a step closer Tuesday to creating a financial oversight committee to provide residents with another layer of security regarding city finances.

Citizens have launched several investigations of city records over the past three years, including one that found improperly recorded gas-tax funds and another that resulted in the indictment of two former officials over an employee's rail contract.

But the residents were never given a formal voice.

Yorba Linda, Laguna Niguel and Anaheim have oversight committees.

"I've come to embrace this," said Councilman Chris Lowe, who had been skeptical of the idea for months. "I certainly hear from our community that there's a need for a committee."

Councilman Norm Eckenrode opposed formation of the group, saying residents do not have the financial knowledge needed to audit the city's books.

The council directed city employees to return with a formula for an oversight committee that would include residents and council members.

Interim Finance Director Fred Branca suggested a five-member committee consisting of up to two council members and at least once resident with an accounting background.

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In 2006 Placentia, Shades of 1994

³³⁷
The Orange County Board of Supervisors, circa 1994, holds the local record for official cluelessness: Like DiMaggio's 56-game hitting streak, it's a record that'll never be broken.

So as not to ruin your lunch, I'll keep the historical reminder brief. As the county treasurer was taking the local investment portfolio into the toilet, the five supervisors stood by in silence. Only when the county declared the biggest municipal bankruptcy in U.S. history did the supes realize that, oops, they should have been paying attention.

To say they were asleep at the switch would be too charitable. They were in a coma. One of them, Tom Riley, famously had said of the treasurer's earlier success on Wall Street: "I don't know how the hell he does it, but he makes us look good."

That is, until he made them look bad. Or, at least, very inept.

Why, you ask, would I dredge up this stuff on a nice day like this? Let the past stay past.

My thoughts exactly, until reading last week that Placentia City Council members had told a county grand jury that they had no idea what had been going on right under their noses, as two other ranking officials pushed the OnTrac rail project that drove the city to the brink of bankruptcy.

A Times reporter reviewed transcripts of the grand jury testimony, which revealed that council members were kept out of the loop as the project moved forward.

Dumb question: How can a city council be kept out of the loop?

Answer: *Only if they want to be.*

There's no elected official in Orange County who doesn't know the debacle of the '94 bankruptcy. They're free to commit any mistake they want, but not paying attention to the company store isn't one of them.

And yet, here is Placentia council veteran Norman Eckenrode reportedly telling the grand jury: "You were kind of the mushroom theory of management. You get information on a need-to-know basis. And if you wanted more, you had to dig."

Long ago, Eckenrode punched out another council member, so he's not exactly a shrinking violet. Why did he allow himself to be shined on in the dark?

Hindsight is great, and I realize that council members aren't experts on everything. They put a lot of trust in their bureaucratic managers. In Placentia's case, that may have been an errant trust, in that the grand jury has indicted two of them in connection with the OnTrac project.

You'd think the county bankruptcy would have taught supervisors and local council members never to trust anyone again. In Placentia, the grand jury testimony indicated that council members rarely asked about OnTrac and didn't get agendas or minutes from meetings about it. One city official testified that council members were encouraged to avoid attending meetings on the project.

Who knows whether any council members could have ferreted out the truth, had they bothered to check things out? It sounds like they were afraid of the bureaucrats they were supposed to be in charge of. Or, maybe, they just weren't interested.

Way back when, when the bankruptcy was raging, I suggested (in a nice way) that the two remaining supervisors turn in their badges and join the other three in post-supervisor retirement. You know, if only to show some accountability.

They opted not to. I won't bother with that suggestion again.

When Riley retired, one of the things he said was "I wish I had listened just a bit more, questioned just a bit more and trusted just a bit less."

That should have been posted in every council chamber in Orange County.

Too late for Placentia, which has secured its place in local lore.

No, its members weren't in the same league as the supervisors of yesteryear, but when it comes to incompetence, they have nothing to be ashamed of.

Dana Parsons' column appears Wednesdays, Fridays and Sundays. He can be reached at (714) 966-7821 or at dana.parsons@latimes.com. An archive of his recent columns is at www.latimes.com/parsons.

Wounded Placentia Dreams On

City with a history of Big Ideas is recovering from the OnTrac debacle. It's not giving up on redefining itself.

By ROY RIVENBURG
Times Staff Writer

Honking horns helped send the sleepy suburb of Placentia down a track to near ruin.

On April Fools' Day 2001, residents were jolted awake by a sound they hadn't heard in 25 years: the piercing blast of freight-train horns.

The renewed racket, which was prompted by federal safety rules, helped cement support for plans to dig a giant ditch so trains could barrel through town unseen and unheard. The project, called OnTrac, was also supposed to fuel a renaissance of the city's aging downtown.

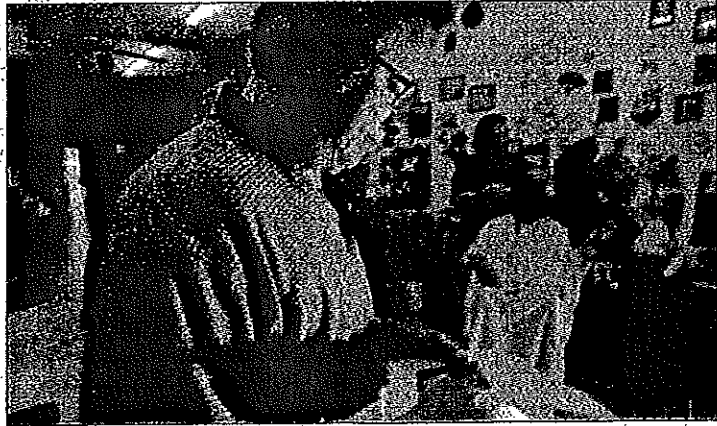
parkland and ponder shutting down the Police Department.

Today, OnTrac is dead, and the city is struggling to regain its equilibrium. Plans for a revamped downtown are still in the works, but it could take years for the northern Orange County city to recover from its railway boondoggle.

"We went on a joyride, and it cost us millions and we're still back at square one," said John Walcek, a photographer who formerly led the city's downtown merchants association.

Placentia has a long history of big ideas shaping its identity. It has been an oil boomtown, citrus powerhouse and host to national elephant races. In the late 1800s, it was known for a colony of psychic vegetarians who once tried to spook residents with mysterious floating lights that turned out to be flaming balls of kerosene-drenched cotton.

[See Placentia, Page B6]



SMALL TOWNISH: Community activist Joe Aguirre, left, visits with friends at Mario's Old Town Hair Salon.

But in trying to tame the railways, Placentia, which once prospered because of the tracks, almost derailed itself. OnTrac created a swamp of red ink, led to the March indictment of two former local officials and forced the city to slash services, mortgage

[Placentia, from Page B1]

In recent years, the city has eyed several plans to shed its image as a bedroom community by reinventing its downtown.

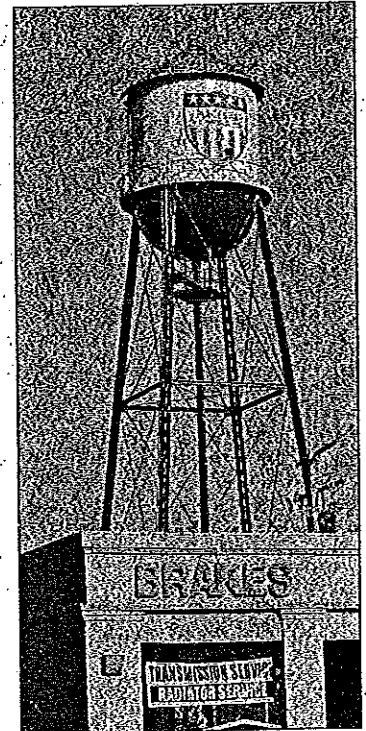
One proposal called for repackaging the largely Latino district as an Orange County version of Olvera Street, with a Mexican-themed plaza and shops.

Another suggested replacing historic buildings with new ones designed to look old.

Reincarnating stale downtowns has become a rite of passage for suburbs looking to boost tax revenues. Brea bulldozed its comatose town center and built another from scratch. Garden Grove studied proposals to install a replica London Bridge and river along Harbor Boulevard. Other cities have relied on historic preservation to resuscitate ailing cores.

A few years ago, Placentia decided to harness the past for its future. In the early 1900s, trains were the city's lifeblood, hauling Valencia oranges from downtown packinghouses. Later, after citrus groves gave way to tract homes, the rails became a nuisance. Dozens of daily freight trains created traffic jams at crossings.

Enter OnTrac. Instead of demolishing homes and businesses to build railroad overpasses, a 5-



DON KELSEN Los Angeles Times
BOOMS, BUSTS: The city, whose water tower is a landmark, had been a citrus powerhouse and oil boomtown.

mile-long concrete trench would dive beneath streets, then surface near an envisioned Metro-link station and a transportation-oriented village of homes

Placentia Is Recovering From Its Big Ideas

chanics and an Alcoholics Anonymous outpost. Although its restaurants draw outsiders, the area caters mostly to locals. Old Town lacks the glamour and tax revenue of downtown Fullerton — a suburban renewal success story envied by latecomers to the trend.

Before OnTrac fever set in, the chief prescription for downtown was a new paint scheme, benches and street lamps, Aguirre said. A retired Sunkist packinghouse would be converted to shops and loft homes.

But in 2003 the vision turned graniose. Computer-generated videos were created to depict downtown's utopian future. The packinghouse was knocked down to make way for 54 luxury condominiums.

Anticipating a shower of state and federal money to bankroll OnTrac's estimated \$650-million price, officials spent millions on video producers, Web page experts, public-relations gurus, lobbyists and other advisors. The man in charge of OnTrac, city Public Works Director Christopher Becker, was given a \$450,000 salary, making him one of the highest-paid transportation officials in the nation.

and offices. The project was seen as a way to speed the revival of Placentia's historic downtown. After the citrus industry faded, the 45-acre area spiraled downward. By the late 1970s, it was mired in shootings, brawls, prostitution and public drunkenness.

"It was, like Tombstone, Ariz.," said Joe Aguirre, a community activist who traces his family's Placentia roots back 100 years. The modern Wild West era ended after merchant renovations and a police crackdown on trouble-some saloons, Aguirre said. Since then, new shops have settled into formerly empty storefronts, and mini-mansions with lion statues and fountains have sprung up along revitalized residential streets.

Despite the upswing, downtown remains a shadow of its early self. Formerly home to a movie theater, department stores, hotels and a Safeway, the neighborhood is now a hodgepodge of mom-and-pop shops, auto me-

chanics, Dominguez said. "The original plan benefited the developer more."

At the urging of Dominguez, who took over D'Amato's old job in 2004, a consultant was hired this year to rewrite the plan based on feedback from residents, city officials and developers.

Aguirre and several other critics of city policies during the OnTrac era seem satisfied with the outcome.

But others have mixed feelings. Jesus Rivera, who runs a tax-preparation business downtown, said the project could provide an economic shot in the arm, but he worries that the influx of shops and pricey homes south of the railroad tracks could also drive up downtown rents and alter the old neighborhood's character.

"This is one of the last original historic places you can find in Orange County," he said. "What I'm most afraid of is that they'll turn it into a run-of-the-mill corporate shopping area... and bring in McDonald's and Subway."

not lost. A previously frozen state grant will whittle the town's debt to \$23 million, City Administrator Bob Dominguez said. And municipal employees recently received raises for the first time in three years.

Plans for the Metrolink depot and surrounding village are moving forward, city officials say. A preliminary proposal comes to the City Council on Tuesday. It leaves the old downtown largely untouched and focuses on transforming about 100 acres to the south.

The first phase, expected to get underway in 2008 along Crowther Avenue, calls for a mix of shops, offices and homes.

A pedestrian bridge over the train tracks will link the new downtown to the old one. After that, the city hopes to push south, replacing a swath of industrial buildings — including the Knott's Berry Farm jam plant on Boysenberry Lane — with about 1,500 homes and a smattering of offices and shops.

Earlier versions of the proposal didn't include enough retail space to boost city tax rev-

But the gold rush didn't last. Placentia eventually racked up \$36 million in debt trying to keep OnTrac afloat.

The end arrived last summer, when Congress answered the city's request for \$225 million with a paltry \$31 million, not enough to build even one railway overpass.

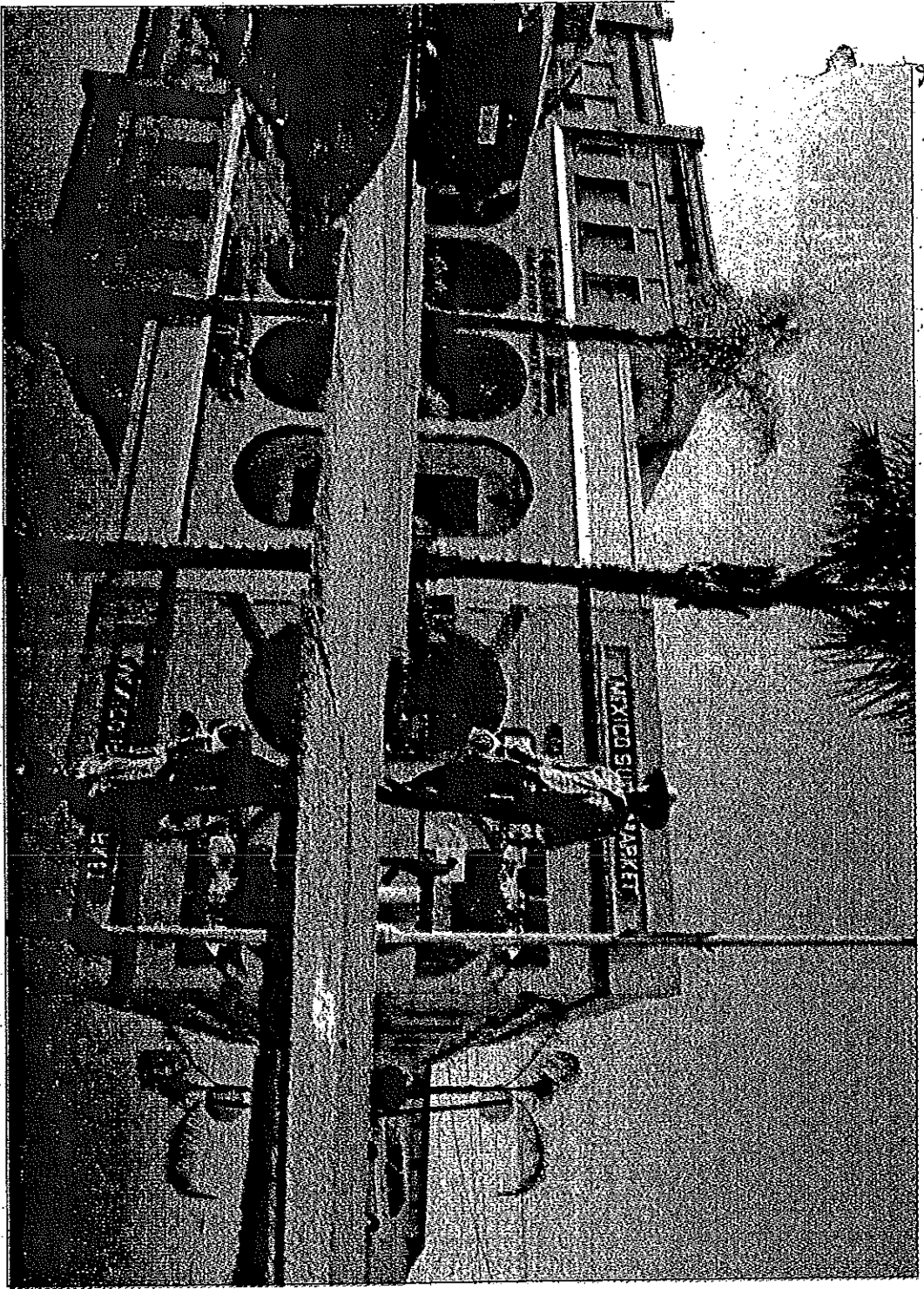
In March, Becker and former City Administrator Robert D'Amato were indicted on conflict-of-interest charges tied to OnTrac, allegations they deny. State officials are also investigating OnTrac and Placentia's finances.

In the wake of the project's demise, Placentia is establishing "quiet zones" to stop trains from honking. But it will be years before the city can afford enough railway overpasses to unclog its north-south roadways.

Nevertheless, as Placentia labors to recapture the Latin translation of its name, "a pleasant place," officials insist all is

We went on a joyride, and it cost us millions and we're still back at square one.

John Walcek, former head of downtown merchants association



L.A.I.D.-BACK: Downtown is pretty quiet. But in the 1970s the town was mired in shootings, brawls and public drunkenness. Photographs by Don Kristan, Los Angeles Times

Ignored, Testimony Alleges OnTrac Warnings

Placentia council members told grand jury they were kept in the dark about potential conflict resulting in officials' indictments.

By KIMI YOSHINO
Times Staff Writer

City officials in Placentia ignored the advice and pleas of legal and financial experts as they spent millions on the ambitious OnTrac rail project that drove the city to the edge of bankruptcy, Orange County Grand Jury testimony shows.

The city attorney had also warned the city administrator that the city might be on perilous legal ground by tapping the town's public works director to head the rail project — a deal that was expected to net him about \$450,000 a year. None of those concerns was shared with the City Council, which seemed largely ignorant of the potential conflict for years.

The former public works director, Christopher Becker, and retired City Administrator Bob D'Amato were indicted last month on charges that they influenced government contracts in which they had a financial stake.

The recently unsealed testimony of nearly three dozen city employees, elected officials and government investigators paints an alarming picture of Placentia's government:

In its zeal to solve the city's railroad woes and lower five miles of track into a concrete trench, the council seemingly placed blind trust in D'Amato and Becker, rarely asking probing questions or attending OnTrac meetings. In turn, D'Amato and Becker frequently kept council members in the dark and did not relay significant financial and legal concerns.

Council members testified that they were not provided with OnTrac agendas or minutes and, according to at least one elected

official, were encouraged to stay away from meetings.

"Too much information was being held in one person, and in my opinion, it was Bob D'Amato," Councilman Norman Z. Eck-enrode testified.

"You were kind of the mushroom theory of management," he told the grand jury. "You get information on a need-to-know basis. And if you wanted more, you had to dig. That's not a healthy situation."

None of the council members said they knew, for example, of a memo written by then City Atty. Carol Tanenbaum in June 2000 that raised concerns about Becker holding jobs as both public works director and executive

director of the railway project. They said they did not learn of the memo until an investigator for the district attorney's office showed it to them.

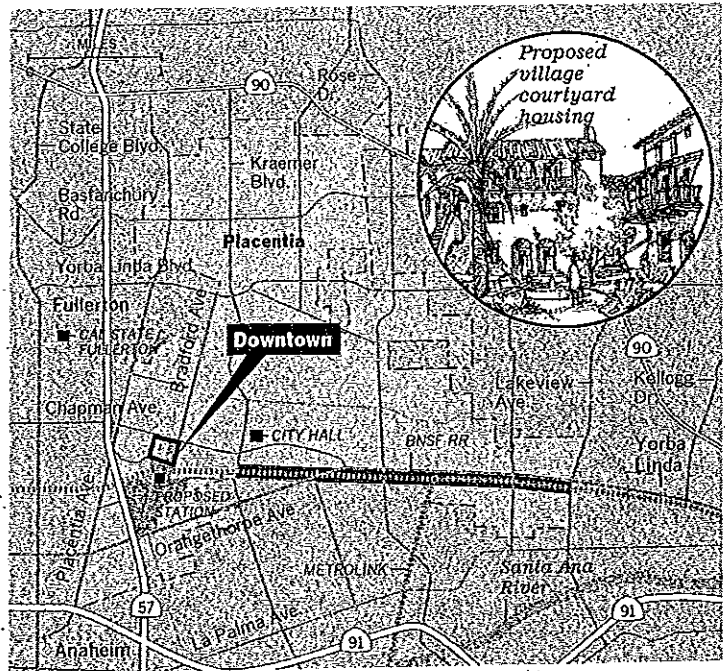
In her testimony, Tanenbaum said that even though she was the city attorney, she was not asked to review Becker's contract and was not told about the meeting to approve it. She discovered it only because she happened to be at City Hall, she said. As a contract attorney, she typically worked out of her law firm's offices.

"Looking back, I think that the parties concerned could predict what my reaction would have been had I [been] present-
[See Placentia, Page B15]

Forging ahead

Although Placentia's plan to lower five miles of railroad tracks is dead, the city is moving forward with plans to spruce up its downtown and build a transportation-oriented village with homes and businesses.

■ Redevelopment project area ■ Site of canceled railroad trench



Source: Placentia

'El Grande' applauded, but not just for dancing

'Mr. Salsa' among hundreds honored for volunteer work in Orange County.

By LORI BASHEDA

THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Salomon Rivera is a three-time world salsa-dancing champion. He is famous. He is suave. He is sought after by dance disciples around the globe.

And every Tuesday morning, he drives from his home in Santa Ana to the Braille Institute in Anaheim to volunteer his time, teaching salsa to adults who are blind.

For that, he will be among the 148 men, women and corporate teams honored today with the Volunteer Center Orange County's Spirit of Volunteerism award.

"He's like Mr. Salsa," said Donna Wager, volunteer coordinator at the Braille Institute who nominated Rivera for the award. "He's just - whew!"

Rivera, 40, quit competing in 2004 after winning his third

SEE VOLUNTEER • PAGE 3

Here are the 148 volunteers and corporate teams who will be recognized today for their service to Orange County organizations:

- Sue Anderson, Mariners Christian School
- Linda Patton, Mariners Christian School
- Mitch Vance, Mariners Christian School
- Jim Garcia, Cox Community Champion
- Art Yoon, Cox Community Champion
- Brinda Acosta, Cox Community Champion
- Silvia Pardo, Anaheim Family YMCA
- League of Volunteers, Corporate ACC Capital Holdings, Ameriquest Family of Companies,
- Norman Kydd, Corporate ACC Capital Holdings-Ameriquest Mortgage Family of Companies

148 who give their time to others

- Natalie Van Doren, Literacy Volunteers-Huntington Beach Library
- Holly Goldstenek, Project Self-Sufficiency
- Erica Rogan, Orange County Science and Engineering Fair
- Kelsa Robertson, Community Action Partnership
- Erinne Krebs, Garden Grove Hospital & Medical Center
- Fred Apodaca, Orange Police Department
- Martina Stirling, Kathy's House
- William Redmond, The Welcome House
- Laurie Steward, The Welcome House
- Mark Bolderwell, The Welcome House
- Ronnie Palmer, The Welcome Shelter
- Jim Blah, Community Action Partnership
- Jeff Coons, National Fibromyalgia Association
- Long (Brian) Doan, National Fibromyalgia Association
- Brent Alderson, National Fibromyalgia Association
- Grant Alderson, National Fibromyalgia Association
- Janie Bryant, National Fibromyalgia Association
- Helen Anderson, Community Action Partnership of Orange County
- Ed Rogan, Orange County Science and Engineering Fair
- Liz Najm, National Multiple Sclerosis Society
- Victor Cohn, Huntington Beach Council on Aging
- Ruth Dutro, Pacific Coast Hospice,
- Mary Daniel, Anaheim Art Association
- Katie Buskirk, Corona del Mar High School
- Jennifer Tucker, Orange County Outdoor Science Foundation
- Kristen Buchler, Canyon Acres Children and Family Services
- Sally Henniger, Helping Others Prepare for Eternity
- Sue Epstein, Share Our Selves
- Sarah Meinert, New Century Financial (Mortgage) Corp.
- Lila Klein, Women Helping Women
- Ben Langhorst, Boys Hope Girls Hope of Southern California
- Karen Arellano, THINK Together
- Red Saunders, Women Helping Women
- Larry Whittaker, South Irvine AYSO 144
- The Steven Robert Family, United Cerebral Palsy of Orange County
- Barbara Hogan, American Red Cross
- Lizbeth Adams, THINK Together
- Donna Wallis, NAMI Orange County
- Chung-Yu (Angel) Yang, THINK Together
- Charles Felix, THINK Together
- Holly Payne, Anaheim Family YMCA
- Jean Wilson, Saint Joseph Ballet
- Tina Choong, Anaheim Family YMCA
- Elaine Cain, Anaheim Family YMCA
- Burt Macley, Blind Children's Learning Center

- OLQA Saturday Morning Men's Curfio Group, Serving People in Need Inc.
- Barbara Myers, Girls Incorporated of Orange County
- Eleanor Anderson, Philharmonic Society of Orange County
- Elaine Su, American Red Cross, Orange County Chapter
- Richard Moreno, Laura's House
- Families-Costa Mesa Parent Advisory Committee PAC, Families-Costa Mesa
- Lawrence (Larry) Wilens, American Red Cross, Orange County
- Betty Bolden-Palmer, Special Olympics Orange County
- Glen Black, HomeAid Orange County
- Denise Watkins, Laurel House
- Eloise Christoffersen, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Pacific South Coast Chapter
- Anita Plunkett, National Multiple Sclerosis Society, Pacific South Coast Chapter
- Robert Wilson, Acacia Adult Day Services
- Dylan Gormly, YMCA of Orange County
- Bruce McClymonds, Providence Speech and Hearing Center
- Joe Ferring, Habitat for Humanity of Orange County
- Darlene Pechler, YMCA of Orange County
- Lorena Prieto, Public Law Center
- Linda Mai, Public Law Center
- Monique Keleman, Public Law Center
- Glenn Leibowitz, KidWorks
- Brad and Erin Wilkinson, International Visitors and Protocol Foundation of Orange County
- Bear Essential Combat St. Clair, Girls Incorporated of Orange County
- Judy Campanella, Junior Achievement of Orange County & The Inland Empire
- Because We're Concerned Adelpia Corporate, Adelpia
- Lizz Kluger, Goodwill of Orange County
- Don Campbell, South County Cross-Cultural Council
- Valerie Waterman, ALS Association-Orange County Chapter
- Dianne L. Mahr, American Red Cross
- Barbara Alvarado, Blind Children's Learning Center
- Virginia Manning, American Red Cross Blood Services
- Jaimie Haver, Blind Children's Learning Center
- Patty Turrell, A Light In The Window
- Dick Mosher, Special Olympics Orange County
- Michelle Clark, Special Olympics Orange County
- Cindy Gittleman, Goodwill of Orange County
- Jerry Risto, The Wellness Community-Orange County
- Mariann Dorthia Romeo, Mercy House
- Don Livezey, Discovery Science Center

Jane Livezey, Discovery Science Center
 Junior League of Orange County Action for
 Safety Committee, Girls Incorporated of Orange
 County
 Robert & Shirley Belloll, Second Harvest Food
 Bank of Orange County
 The David Salon, Human Options
 Anne Bohn, Girls Incorporated of Orange County
 Judy Lindsay, Costa Mesa Senior Center
 Colli Kingston, Court Appointed Special Ad-
 vocates
 Peggy Corlew, Orange County Sheriff's Depart-
 ment
 Landing Hands Volunteers, Option One Mort-
 gage Corporation/H & R Block Mortgage Corpora-
 tion
 Sandy Bohl, Art & Creativity for Healing, Inc.
 Cathy L'Heureux, Art & Creativity for Healing,
 Inc.
 Jessica Erstad, Child Abuse Prevention Center
 Team Freedom, The Orange County Register
 Martha Justus, Anaheim Police Department
 Loretta Ogden, Anaheim Police Department

Jessica Erstad, Child Abuse Prevention Center
 Wendy Weeks, Project Access
 Mark Krahnz, Saddleback Memorial Medical Cen-
 ter
 Loucinda Carlton, Irvine Public Schools Founda-
 tion
 Satsu Hata, Santiago Creek School, Orange Co.
 Dept. of Ed.
 Jack Goffman, Ocean Institute
 Nancy Clifton Hawkins, The Orange County
 Breastfeeding Coalition
 Pam Marshak, Cordelia Knott Wellness Founda-
 tion
 Joe Rosener, Community & School Collaboration
 Magic Makers Community Action Team Part-
 ners Federal Credit Union, Disneyland Resort
 Helen Roe, Disneyland Resort
 Ed Scheibel, Orange Police Department
 Al Lee, Placentia Library Literacy Services
 Joe Eusterman, Experian
 Martha Rosmus, Leadership Anaheim
 Allyson Bailgud, Wishland
 Taylor Hartman, You Are Special

Bang Thai Mai, TAVIET
 Beth Sellers, Jamie Fingal and Beth Carrol,
 Girl Scout Council of Orange County
 Gary and Abbe Sorensen, Families Forward
 Bill and Sally Finnen, Families Forward
 Kim-Lien Bui, Hoa Hao Youth Group
 Lari Le Truong, Truong Son Vietnamese Scouts
 Group
 Lynn Bach, Little Saigon Foundation
 Linda Crowder, WISEPlace
 Esther Wallace, Magnolia School District
 Salomon Rivera, Braille Institute
 Allie Smith, Placentia Library Literacy Services
 Jack & Jan Stephenson, Adult Day Services of
 Orange County
 Haze Saliture, Mothers Against Drunk Driving
 Melanie Christensen, Toby's House Maternity
 Home
 Billie Krogh, Fairview Developmental Center
 Tina Marie Schuhrke, Foster Care Auxiliary of
 Orange County
 Mina Yamasaki, Foster Care Auxiliary of Orange
 County
 Dick Swanson, Huntington Beach Police Depart-
 ment
 Mark Schmidt, Volunteer Center Orange County
 Fluor Community Involvement Team, Fluor
 Reta Thomas, Fluor Community Involvement
 Team

VOLUNTEER: 'A way for me to pay back'

FROM PAGE 1

straight world championship and now travels the world (from Russia to Japan) teaching salsa.

It was an e-mail that led him to the Braille Institute two years ago. Could he give just a few hours of his time to teach a dance class, the missive asked? Instead of hitting the delete button, Rivera made a phone call. Now he runs the most popular class on campus, Wager says. "People well into their senior years are shaking their booties."

Rivera calls out the dance steps by assigning each move a number. Sometimes he taps a student's hands on a table to show them what their feet should be doing. The end of each class is a hug fest.

"I think we all have the opportunity to every day make a person happy," Rivera says. "I get to make a bunch of people

happy. It's a great feeling for me."

Born in impoverished San Salvador, the capital of El Salvador, to a father who was a professional dancer, Rivera began performing with his sister at age 8. He came to Anaheim in 1985 as a teen and later moved to Santa Ana, where he eventually earned the nickname El Grande, for his dominance in the salsa-dancing world.

"I feel blessed," Rivera says. "This is a way for me to pay back what I have received ... even just by being in this wonderful country. This is a country where anything can happen."

This is the 30th year that the Volunteer Center Orange County will recognize people for over-and-above community service. Nearly 150 Spirit of Volunteerism awards will be handed out today at a luncheon at the Hyatt in Irvine.

Honorees are nominated by nonprofits and businesses.

This year's award winners have done everything from giving companionship to cancer patients stuck in hospitals to delivering meals to homebound seniors to reading to homeless children.

Lucy Steinberg will receive the center's top Giving is Living Award. She is founder of the Leadership Institute for Teens and co-founder of the Community School Partnership Fund; a Girl Scout leader, classroom volunteer and co-chairwoman of gala events for several nonprofits.

Started in 1958, the Volunteer Center Orange County matches people with volunteer opportunities. It has matured into the one of the largest of the 350 volunteer centers nationwide.

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ter.com



MARILYNN YOUNG/PLACENTIA NEWS-TIMES

LAURELS: Poet Meredith Karen Laskow, 55, is the poet laureate of the Placentia Library. The title of laureate is usually given by national governments.

Gossamer and burlap

‘Depression and angst can be great for poetry,’ says Placentia’s poet laureate. ‘Low-level unhappiness isn’t. If the reason for it is nebulous, your poetry will be nebulous.’

By **SUSHMA SUBRAMANIAN**
PLACENTIA NEWS-TIMES

There’s a line of poets laureate running from Geoffrey Chaucer through Alfred, Lord Tennyson, William Carlos Williams and Robert Pinsky.

At the end of it stands Meredith Karen Laskow, poet laureate of Placentia.

The longtime Placentia resident had written poems and essays for dozens of regional magazines and performed as a featured artist at local poetry readings, but said that the county needed a poet laureate

to put itself on the cultural map. Orange County, save for a few artistic communities such as Laguna Beach, is largely a cultural wasteland, she said.

The city wouldn’t appoint her. But the Placentia Library District, whose board members agreed that library-sponsored poetry workshops and readings could add to the library’s existing programs.

“We all felt we needed to work out details, but we were excited about the prospect of doing it,” said library director Elizabeth Minter. “We had a community volunteer, and it’s

a means of expression for the community and it gives people with an interest in writing poetry and forum to exchange ideas.”

Since then, Laskow’s programs have drawn visitors from as far away as Los Angeles.

About fifteen municipalities in California currently have poets laureate; Placentia Library District is the only one in Orange County.

Laskow, 55, wasn’t always so public about her work.

SEE POET • PAGE 4



MARILYNN YOUNG/PLACENTIA NEWS-TIMES

THE WORD: Meredith Karen Laskow has written several books of poetry. She is the poet laureate for the Placentia Library.

POET

FROM PAGE 1

As a teenager growing up in a Chicago suburb, she began writing poems and essays about loves found and lost, observations of people around her and grandiose plans to save the universe.

But she never let anyone read them.

"I did it because it was inside me," she said. "I didn't write it because I wanted to show it to anybody."

In her twenties, she slowly became less and less prolific due to a depression that she couldn't quite find a reason for, she said.

"Depression and angst can be great for poetry," she said. "Low-level unhappiness isn't, because you don't really point your finger at a reason for it. If it's nebulous, your product will be nebulous."

At 30, she stopped writing altogether.

er.

Then, two days before her 48th birthday, Laskow found out that she had cancer. Her terror and angst made her return to writing.

Doctors had told her not to worry about the pea-sized lump in her breast, which had a shape that doctors said didn't fit the normal description for cancer.

Laskow insisted that doctors conduct a biopsy.

Then, three hours after the test results came back with cancer, she ended the writer's block that she suffered for 18 years.

*"She stands at the edge of an abyss
casually looking down*

Cancer

*The word rings through the canyons
Careening off*

The frozen edges of her heart

Cancer

She cries

*For six weeks she has toiled up the
mountain*

Six weeks

Since finding a lump in her breast

Six weeks

*Of trudging one foot in front of the oth-
er*

Six weeks

*Of trying to hear the birds and see the
grass and smell the flowers and
touch the trees*

In the valley where she once lived"

"I just sat down and the words flowed," she said of her poem, titled "The Mountain." "Emotionally, I'm very attached to that poem."

It also began a prolific period for Laskow, during which she wrote nearly 60 works.

As she began sharing her poems and essays with members of her cancer support group, her friends convinced her to try to publish her work.

She submitted her work to area publications and started attending readings.

Then she published three collections of her work, "And the Artist was 12...", "Galloping Words," and "Cool Kids Ain't Us."

Laskow has been in cancer remission since she finished radiation therapy in 1999.

But her involvement in the Orange County's artistic community made her want to get more people involved, through the poet laureate program, which she began in July 2003.

"I think people need art in their lives," she said. "I wish more people knew about poets and read poetry."

She hopes that other communities in Orange County might also initiate poet laureate programs.

Springtime means it's fundraiser season

Although it's raining steadily as I write this, there's the promise of spring in the air and we'll be seeing signs of it in a day or so when our gardens take on more vibrant colors. Spring also has a tendency to bring out an abundance of fundraisers planned by our town's clubs and organizations, and I'm sharing them with you now.

For those of you who love

at 901 N. Bradford St., on Tuesday evening, April 11. The action starts at 7 p.m. A dessert buffet will be offered to keep up your energy as you move from table to table as games are completed. Lots of door prizes as well as table prizes will be offered. Tickets are \$15 per person and are available from Linda Schaal at 223-7519 or Brenda Benner at 528-4565. Bunco's not just for the gals anymore.

Club of Placentia/Yorba Linda and other local community organizations. A full-course dinner will be served and tickets at \$18 are available from Carol Kennedy at 792-0998 or Nathan Chappel at 993-9133.



**ELEANORE
RANKIN**
NEIGHBORHOOD
NEWS

to play Bunco and are looking to play this game with more tables than you ordinarily do, let me tell you about a big one planned at the Placentia Round Table

Women's Clubhouse, located

You'll see a lot of guys enjoying this fast-moving game.

And if your taste leans toward some heftier stuff, there's the Placentia Rotary's Cash Bash that'll be played at the Yorba Linda Community Center on Friday, April 21 starting at 5:30 p.m. Themed "It's a Party," this annual event is the club's main fundraiser, with funds going back to the community. Proceeds will benefit the Boys and Girls

To participate in the Cash Bash drawing, buy an advance \$100 ticket from either one of them. Special Bingo games will be played throughout the evening, and the live auction items will tempt you to participate in that action as well. Come early to view the car show presented by Classic Cruisers of North Orange County. These babies are a feast for the eyes!

The lovely voice of Dorcas Preston will be heard at the Easter Bonnet Parade luncheon of the Placentia-Brea Women's Connection at Alta Vista Country Club on Monday, April 10. Placentia's hat lady, Joy Feeger, will walk down memory lane with some of the hats from her extensive collection. The event starts at 11:30 a.m. with a buffet luncheon with the program immediately following. Cost is \$12. Call Pat at 998-8757 for reservations.

An interfaith community program offered by the Placentia Library District on Monday, April 10 at 6:30 p.m. will bring panelists together to discuss their various cultures and religions. The panel will include Placentia resident Charles Frazee (Catholicism), Maria Khani (Islam), and Rabbi David Eliezerie (Judaism). A free screening of the interfaith film, "On Common Grounds," produced by Fullerton filmmaker Ahmad Zahra, will be presented. Light refreshments will be served. Call 528-1906 for more information.

The Placentia Library's Author Lunch was attended by 250 book aficionados. The proceeds came to \$14,000, which was \$4,000 more than last year. The Boys and Girls Clubs' St. Patrick's Day Dinner and Auction event - its third year - had over 450 attending and yielded a whopping \$25,000, a significant in-

RANKIN

FROM PAGE 14

crease from the previous two years. Nice going, B&G!

The chili cook-off financials have not yet reached me, however, **Rev. Glenn Miller**, pastor at Placentia United Methodist Church, tells me that 150 attended and he was pleased with the turnout. The cook-off was a first-time event and the congregation of Cornerstone Church that shares the premises helped make it a success. Although I had trepidations going in as a judge of this culinary delight, as did my fellow judge-teammates, **Hugh Wood and Patti McCoy Jacob**, we had no problem coming up with a consensus in the 15 chili entries. Let's hear it for **Bob Nixon** who cooked up the "hottest," **Bonnie Heffner**, for her "most original," and **Shirley Cheney**, whose chili was judged to be the "best."

The Chamber of Commerce has announced two noteworthy events coming up this month. April 13 is the date for its mixer at the Placentia Library. Hours are from 5:30 to 7 p.m. and there is no charge. And on April 14, the chamber will co-sponsor with Placentia Rotary Club the annual Community Prayer Breakfast at Alta Vista Country Club at 7:30 a.m. Call the chamber at 528-1873 for more information. Cost is \$15. **Bob Sleker**, who plans the weekly chamber networking luncheons, tells me that the Wednesday networking luncheons will move to Poulini's restaurant starting this month; he wants to thank **Bernie Gordon**, gracious host of Rembrandt's, for his hospitality in hosting this chamber group these many months.

Eleanore Rankin has the latest about families, clubs and business. Call her at (714) 524-8337 or fax information to (714) 524-8660.

pacific clippings

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Los Angeles Times
OC Edition
Daily APR - 8 2006

Monday 332

Exhibit: The San Clemente High School student art exhibit is showcased at the Casa Romantica Cultural Center and Gardens. Works include paintings, drawings, photography and ceramics. Through May 14. Free, 415 Avenida Granada, San Clemente. (949) 498-2139 or www.casaromantica.org

Film: "On Common Grounds," produced by Fullerton filmmaker Ahmad Zahra, centers on improving relationships among people of different cultures and religions. Short discussions take place before and after the film. 6:30 p.m. Free, Placentia Library, 411 E. Chapman Ave. (714) 528-1906.

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The nationals: Valencia High School's varsity color guard is in Dayton, Ohio, to compete in the national championship in the Scholastic Open Division. They will compete against 45 teams from across the nation. The Valencia team is ranked in the top ten of all schools in its division nationally, and has won all of its competitions this year.

- Cindy Arora
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The Register
Daily APR 13 2006

ALMANAC

332 HISTORIC SITES

PLACENTIA

Bradford House: 136 Palm Circle; built in 1902; home of Albert Bradford, a Placentia founder who organized Placentia National Bank and Bradford Packinghouse.

George Key Ranch: 625 W. Bastanchury Road; built in 1898; oldest standing house in the city.

Ontiveros Adobe site: Crowther Avenue and Porter Way; in 1841, Juan Pacifico Ontiveros, owner of land that would become Anaheim, Placentia and Fullerton, built an adobe here; no longer exists.

Source: Placentia Library history room

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The Register
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Placentia has a poet to call its very own

337
Library district's
poet laureate
works to inspire
artistic creativity
and appreciation
for verse.

By **SUSHMA SUBRAMANIAN**
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

PLACENTIA • For years, Meredith Karen Laskow read her poetry at local venues, The Ugly Mug Café in Orange and Misfit #9 Gallery in Santa Ana.

She had been through the routine many times.

Since she doesn't wear a watch, she pre-timed her poems to the second to stay within her five-minute limit.

Audiences were supportive, but never included many people from her city, Placentia.

So Laskow pushed for a poet laureate position in the town. The city showed little interest, but the Placentia Library District was taken by the idea.

Her task is to hold readings and poetry workshops in the library's meeting room a few times a year.

"We were excited about the prospect of doing it," said Library Director Elizabeth Min-



MARILYNN YOUNG, THE REGISTER

WORDSMITH: Meredith Karen Laskow at the Placentia Library.

Meredith Karen Laskow

Age: 55

Years in Placentia: 25

Published works: 83 poems and essays

Upcoming poetry programs:

Coffee house-style open reading at the Placentia Library at 4 p.m. April 30.

Favorite poet: Czeslaw Milosz

ter. "We had a community volunteer, and it's a means of expression for the community."

Laskow's programs have drawn visitors from throughout the region. About 15 municipalities in California have poets laureate; Placentia Library District is the only one in Orange County.

Laskow, 55, wasn't always so public with her work.

As a teen in a Chicago suburb, she wrote poems and essays about love and failed romances and grandiose plans to save the universe. But she never let anyone read them.

"I did it because it was inside me," she said. "I didn't write it because I wanted to

show it to anybody."

In her 20s, she was less prolific because of depression or boredom, she said. At 30, she stopped.

Then, two days before her 48th birthday, Laskow discovered she had cancer.

Her grief and terror forced her to end the writer's block by writing "The Mountain":

She stands at the edge of an abyss

casually looking down

Cancer

The word rings through the canyons

Careening off

The frozen edges of her heart

Cancer

When she began showing her poetry to her cancer support group, they persuaded her to publish her work.

Her involvement in Orange County's artistic community increased when her cancer went into remission in 1999.

Now, she hopes other communities will initiate laureate programs like Placentia's.

"I think people need art in their lives," she said. "I wish more people knew about poets and read poetry."

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Our cultural oasis

As an employee of the Orange County library system, I disagree with much of the article, "O.C. libraries loosen up" [Focus, April 6].

Our society has been indoctrinated to expect everything to be trendy, which leads to a "happening" experience. From mindless reality TV, tasteless "American Idol" music to constant blabbering on our cell phones, we've become a nation of robotic pawns controlled by Big Business advertising schemes.

It's refreshing to still have an oasis of great literature, music and movies along with computer stations devoid of the loud constant buzz you experience at Borders or Starbucks. Remember these are corporations that do what they do for profit only. The library is a non-profit public service to serve each individual community, providing free rental of books and music. With the high cost of books today, this is a real bargain.

I believe change is important, and our libraries must remain on the cutting edge of technology, but we also need to allocate more state funding to our library systems or the book will shut and another public institution will go the way of the business world.

Steve Kellmyer
Lake Forest

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The Register
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Annual meeting: The Friends of the Library will hold its annual meeting at 6:30 p.m. Monday in City Council chambers, 401 E. Chapman Ave. Mystery writer Jan Burke will be the speaker. Dinner will follow in the Placentia Library meeting room. For information, call (714) 528-1925, ext. 210.

- Sushma Subramanian
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Grant spending: The City Council agreed Tuesday to pay off a \$6.9 million debt incurred to buy an Office Depot property for the city's rail project. The purchase was the main use of \$15.1 million in state grants that the city has waited four years to receive. The money, which was frozen in 2002, will be spent much as officials anticipated when the state authorized funding in the fall - to reimburse the city for underpass expenses, to construct a pedestrian bridge and build reserves.

- Sushma Subramanian
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Becker, D'Amato face novel charge

District Attorney's argument is untested in conflict of interest cases.

By **SUSHMA SUBRAMANIAN**
PLACENTIA NEWS-TIMES

332

If you break the law in signing a contract, are you continuing to break the law by getting paid under the contract?

That's the question at the heart of the District Attorney's felony conflict-of-interest case against former Public Works Director Chris Becker and related case against former City Administrator Robert D'Amato.

Becker is accused of illegally benefiting from his efforts to create OnTrac in 2000 and drawing up his own contract as executive director of the agency. D'Amato is accused of helping him draw up the contract and then covering up the conflict of interest, which he was told about shortly after the deal was reached, the district attorney's office said.

The district attorney's office would not say whether then-City Attorney Carol Tanenbaum, who testified before the grand jury, told D'Amato the deal was illegal.

Tanenbaum declined to comment, citing grand jury secrecy instructions. She resigned the position she'd held for 13 years just three months after the contract was ap-

BECKER

FROM PAGE 1

proved.

D'Amato attorney Ron Brower said the City Council knew everything his client did.

"Mr. D'Amato went to the lawyer that does work for the city and he presented the circumstances and they advised him that what he was doing was within the law and in the best interest of the city," Brower said.

Becker has said that the city attorney signed off on the contract at the time.

State law bars public officers from creating contracts that they benefit from.

The two are expected to enter pleas at a May 31 arraignment. If convicted, they could receive up to eight months in state prison and three years' probation.

WHEN DID THE CLOCK START?

The statute of limitations for this type of conflict of interest violation is four years, meaning that crimes more than four years old cannot be prosecuted. Prosecutors contend that the crime was ongoing up until Becker's dismissal in November 2005.

Becker's lawyer says the clock started ticking in April 2000, when the contract was signed, and ran out two years ago.

"The city urged Mr. Becker to go forward, reaped millions in benefits for five years, and



Chris Becker

now plays 'gotcha' with this technical claim," Becker attorney Paul Meyer said.

The city brought in about \$80 million in grants during his leadership, he said.

"Everything was done in public," Brower said. "If this was a crime, then the \$64,000 question is, 'Why wasn't the entire City Council indicted?' They knew everything that he knew."

Senior Deputy Orange County District Attorney Camille Hill isn't alleging D'Amato benefited financially, but said there is ample proof that he aided Becker. She added that D'Amato knew about the conflict within weeks of sign-

ing Becker's contract.

"He had a responsibility to protect the public and an obligation to prevent a cover-up," she said.

Her office will argue that the statute clock didn't begin until Becker received his final payment from the city, in 2005.

There is a category of offenses known in California as continuing violations, for which the statute of limitations does not start running while violations are ongoing, Senior Deputy District Attorney



Robert D'Amato

Brian Gurwitz said.

Becker continued to benefit for five years after the contract was signed.

PRECEDENTS

One example of an ongoing violation is found in the 1978 case *Williams v. Superior Court*.

An insurance adjustor sold a confidential personal injury file to defendant attorneys, who were later retained to represent the injured party in a malpractice suit.

More than three years after receipt of the file, defendants were indicted for receiving and concealing stolen property.

The court ruled that concealment is a continuing of-

fense if it is done on purpose.

The ongoing violation rule has also been used in the context of failing to notify a real estate commissioner of the sale or lease of land or of failing to register as a sex offender.

No published appellate decision has ruled on whether conflict-of-interest violations can constitute ongoing violation, Gurwitz said.

THE PROTAGONISTS

"There is no doubt that OnTrac has been tainted," said Mayor Scott Brady. "But we have stepped away and made swift and comprehensive changes."

Craig Green, whose community group Citizens for a Better Placentia brought the complaint to the county in June 2004, said the news was vindicating.

"Three and a half years we've been asking these questions," said Green. "Now the grand jury and the District Attorney's Office have found the same issues we did."

As recently as last February, Becker did not take the probe seriously.

"During the 2004 election, a very nasty residents group alleged that I had a conflict of interest and that I improperly influenced the 2000 contract," Becker wrote in a Feb. 9 e-mail to Ron Mutter, public-works director of Redlands, which

has a rail-project contract with Becker.

"I can assure you, all I did was what I was requested to and followed the established procedures guided by the city's counsel."

Councilwoman Connie Underhill, a frequent Becker critic, said she had counted on D'Amato to be the council's watchdog.

"I feel betrayed," she said. "It's hard to believe this could have happened, that we didn't have a whistle-blower within staff who would have said: 'You are not being told all you need to know.'"

City officials learned of Becker's potential conflict in January 2003 through a confidential memo from City Attorney Tom Nixon.

That memo, obtained by Green's group, was the catalyst for the county probe.

Mayor Scott Brady said the city acted quickly to reduce Becker's compensation in March 2003.

"It was a poor contract and we did redraft it," Mayor Scott Brady said.

Councilman Norm Eckenrode said the city corrected the problem and that D'Amato and Becker contributed a lot to Placentia.

"Somehow this seems like a political witch hunt with this thing," he said. "To me, it's a waste of taxpayers' money."

The indictments

The grand jury heard testimony from 30 people before handing down indictments against former City Administrator Bob D'Amato and former Public Works Director Chris Becker for their roles in creating OnTrac.

BECKER

Two indictments say Becker helped set up the agency and crafted his own contract while a city officer - and benefited financially from doing so.

Becker billed OnTrac about \$1.3 million between April 2000 and March 2003 - the dates focused on by the grand jury.

Response: Becker has long argued that city attorneys reviewed his contract before it was approved, and that city officials encouraged him to pursue the dual role. His lawyer argues that a statute of limitations prevents prosecution.

D'AMATO

The two indictments against D'Amato say his help in creating the agency and Becker's contract enabled Becker to illegally benefit - though D'Amato reaped no financial rewards. They say D'Amato - the sole permanent OnTrac board member - failed to investigate conflict-of-interest issues and later withheld information or misinformed city officials about those issues.

Response: His attorney said the OnTrac contracts were approved in public and that the council had the same information as D'Amato.

UPDATE

Firing Becker

THEN: JANUARY

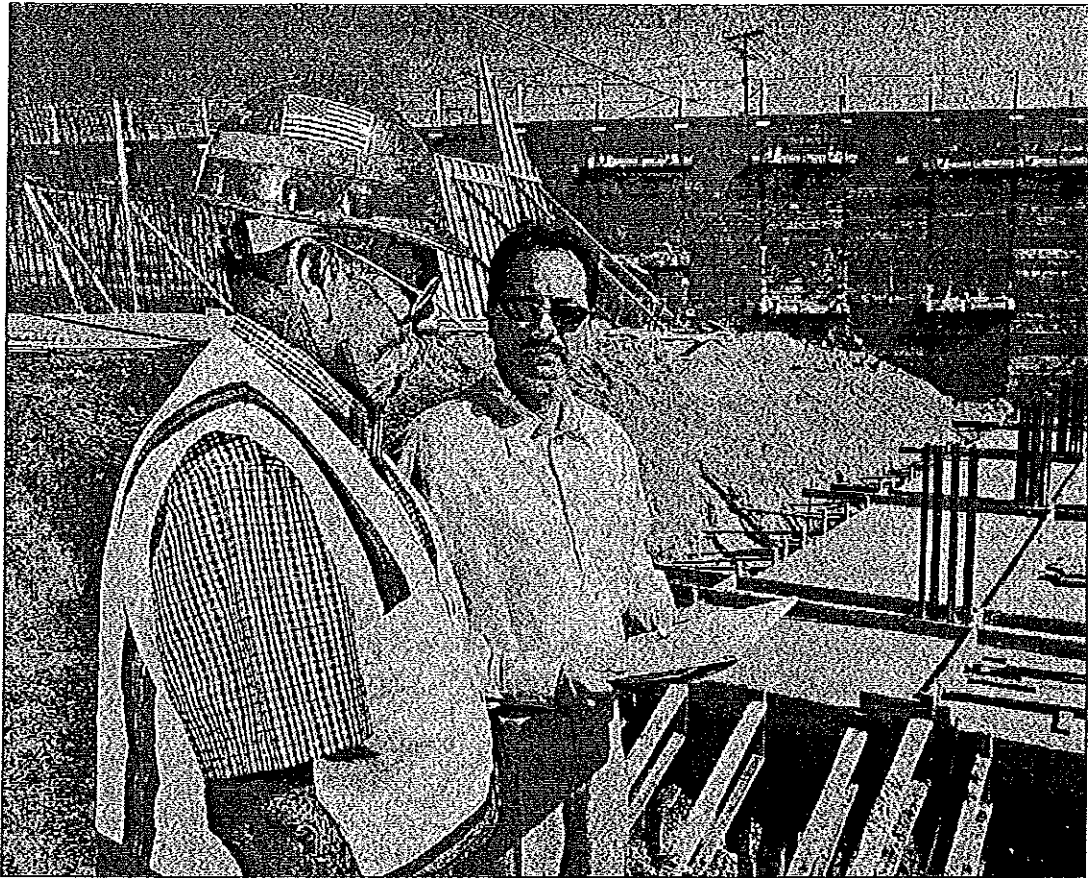
The city of Redlands hired former Placentia rail chief Chris Becker to complete engineering studies and an application for a railroad quiet zone at the Union Pacific Railroad's Alessandro Road crossing. Residents hoping to quiet the train whistles in their neighborhood suggested Becker for the contract after his initial studies suggested the project could be done for less than \$50,000 by installing a median.

NOW

Becker was indicted last week for conflict-of-interest violations.

WHAT'S NEXT

City Manager John Davidson is recommending that the council end the contract with Becker. The council was scheduled to vote Tuesday.



FILE PHOTO

BIG HOLE: Job foreman Joe Mendoza, left, and former rail-project chief Chris Becker discuss the day's progress on the work being done in late 2004 to the Melrose underpass.

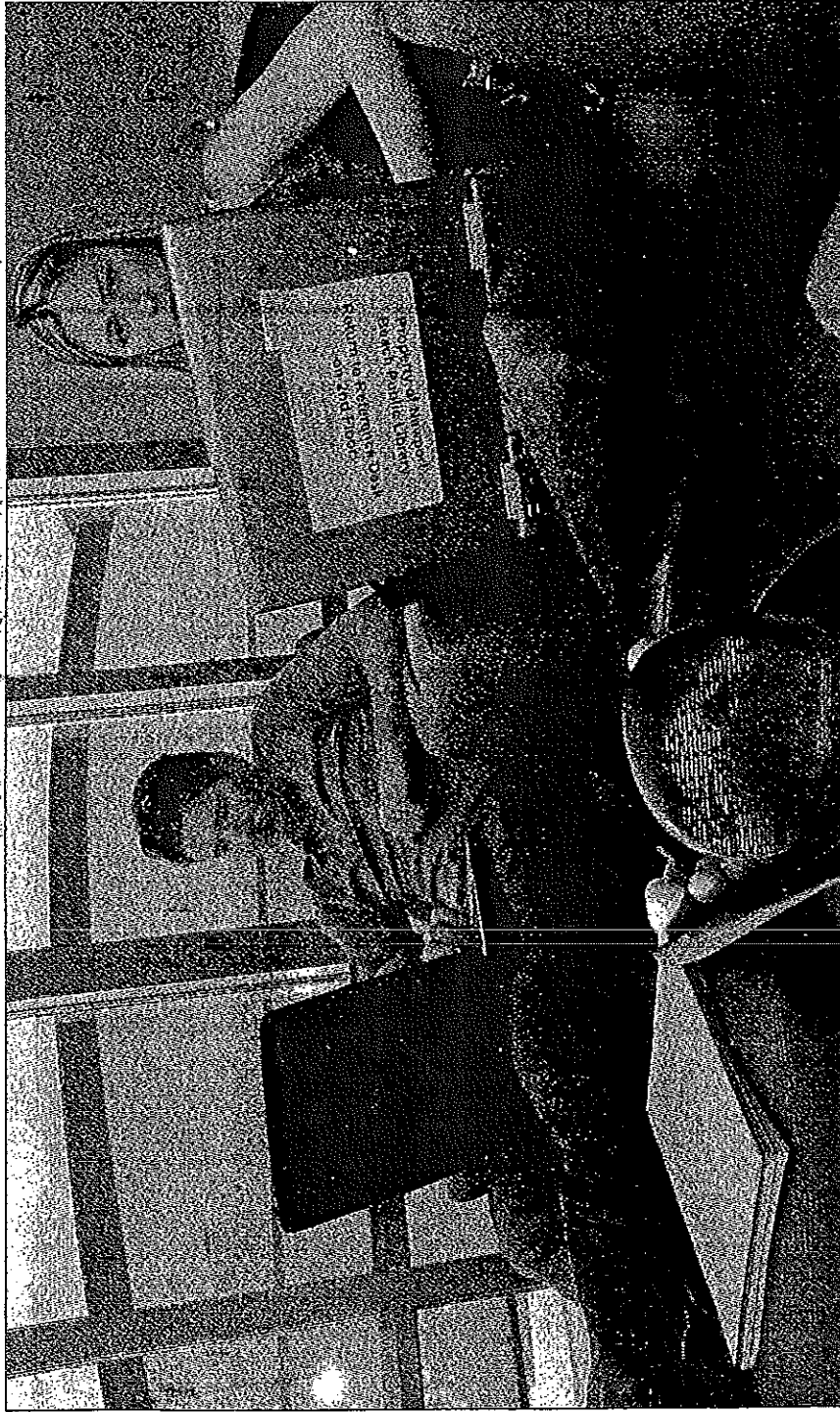
Libraries take a page from business world

You can shut the book on the library of old.

The public institution is confronted with slow-growing budgets and fast-mounting competition in the form of bookstores and the Internet.

IN DEPTH
NEWS 3 >>

But by writing a new chapter – one that embraces pop culture, mimics hospitality at top-of-the-line hotels and does away with all that shushing – libraries in Orange County are betting they'll secure their futures for generations to come.



FIRST-CLASS SEATS: Kyle Hesley and Danielle Walker plop down in comfortable chairs at the Newport Beach Public Library.

PHOTOS: RYAN HODGSON-RIGSBEE, THE REGISTER

O.C. libraries loosen up

Once known as staid, quiet repositories for books, some institutions are copying business models on how best to attract and keep 'customers.'

By JEFF OVERLEY
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

Orange neon and iPods. Espresso bars and flat screens. Internet sites with advice about sex, drugs and rock 'n' roll.

Libraries in Orange County ain't what they used to be.

With funding tight and competition fierce, the hushed repositories of worldly knowledge are undergoing an extreme makeover.

Far from a simple shift from encyclopedias to laptops, the institution is embarking on a cultural time warp to keep pace with modern tastes.

"People are trying to make libraries happening places," says Ken Haycock, director of the School of Library and Information Science at San Jose State.

It's not happening at every local library, but the trend is not paper-thin. In several cities, librarians are steeping themselves in business-management theory and marketing to niche audiences. They're studying service at five-diamond resorts and ditching rules on noise, food and drink.

And there's no such thing as a library "patron" anymore - visitors are now known as "customers."

The public library's emulation of private enterprise comes as the Web challenges its monopoly on information, and cozy bookstores expose its staid reputation.

"For our own performance and, I would say, for our own survival, we need to stay competitive and move forward," says Valerie Maginnis, library director in Mission Viejo.

'A SEA CHANGE'

Much of the library's evolution is rooted in the halls of higher learning, Haycock says.

"Our students are taking many more courses of their own volition in areas like marketing, human-resources management, interpersonal communications," he says.

The research is carrying over from the classroom to the boardroom, where officials seek to emulate successful companies renowned for their treatment of guests.

At the Cerritos Library, officials study hospitality practices at the Ritz-Carlton, Trader Joe's and cruise lines.

Newport Beach officials look at Starbucks, and for the past six months have employed secret shoppers to gauge librarian helpfulness.

"It's truly a sea change in librarianship," says Linda Katsouleas, director of the Newport Beach Public Library.

SPEAK EASY

The most momentous finding: People hate being shushed. In many libraries, conversation is now encour-

aged, with only certain areas sectored off for silence.

Four months ago, the Anaheim Library abolished its ban on cell phones in recognition of a "cell-phone culture."

"Years ago, we would never have to create a quiet zone - we were the quiet zone," says City Librarian Carol Stone.

Gone too are stodgy desks and rock-hard chairs, replaced by leather chairs, ottomans, end tables and wrought-iron lamps.

"You're talking about getting away from the institutional library feel," says Don Buckley, a manager at the Cerritos Library. "We didn't buy library furniture - we just bought furniture that was comfortable. ... We want it to feel like people's living rooms."

Also jettisoned are restrictions on snacks and beverages, a bow to the allure of bookstore-coffee shop fusions.

"We used to actually have security people, and one of their missions was to walk around and tell people to return back to the snack area," says Ron Hayden, director of the Huntington Beach Public Library. "We now have an actual coffee cart ... we've not

only relaxed our policy, we've actually encouraged people to kick off their shoes."

And libraries aren't just mellowing out - they're trying to tune in as well.

In many places, that means targeting youths like never before. Whereas the library of old had story time for toddlers, Anaheim now targets four distinct age groups - toddlers, elementary-school pupils, "tweens" and teens.

The Orange County Public Library, serving nearly two dozen cities, offers a "Real Life" teen Web page with links to information on sex and alcoholism, music and vegetarian eating.

It's "all part of responding to the changing needs of our constituency," says Katsouleas of the Newport library, which offers audio books on iPods and a teen room with a neon sign. "A 6-year-old does not need the same kind of materials and environment as teens."

CASHING IN

But behaving like a business means more than accommodating finicky consumers; it also means making money.

With budgets increasingly dedicated to technology and municipal funding often flat, libraries are charting new paths - far beyond used-book sales - to fatten their wallets.

In Huntington Beach, officials rent out rooms for family reunions, wedding receptions and religious services, events that netted the library \$400,000 last year. Mission Viejo proctors tests, and doles out passports, pocketing tidy commissions from each.

"We celebrate our entrepreneurialism here," says Maginnis of the Mission Viejo Library, which may soon partner with a private copy center.

With all their new offerings, libraries need to get the word out. That's where marketing, once only word-of-mouth, comes in. Ads adorn bus shelters and school lunch menus in Mission Viejo, city newsletters in Newport Beach.

"Back in the good old days, marketing and PR for libraries consisted of a flier or a book-mark," Maginnis says. "Now, we have to be just as commercially minded as the private sector."

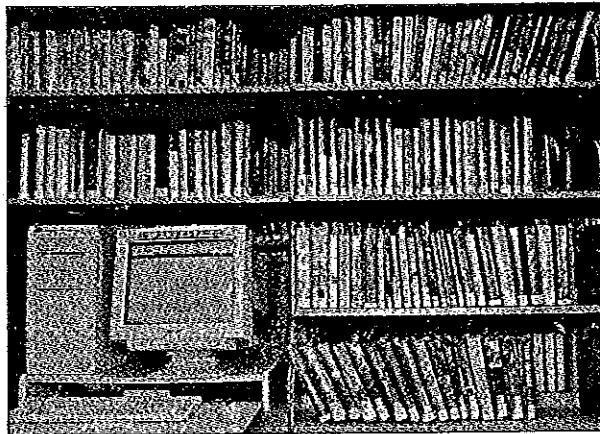
Officials say they're confident that libraries are here to

stay, in one form or another. What Google offers in accessibility, Barnes and Noble in comfort, Amazon in value - the library has all that and more, they argue.

But, they concede, any sense of pre-eminence is now a footnote in history, supplanted by an eagerness to please.

"Once upon a time, we saw ourselves as gatekeepers ... but you can't do that now," Buckley says. "You want to get people in the doors ... you have to show your value. You can't just sit back and say, 'We have all the knowledge in the world, come here if you want.' We have to do more than that."

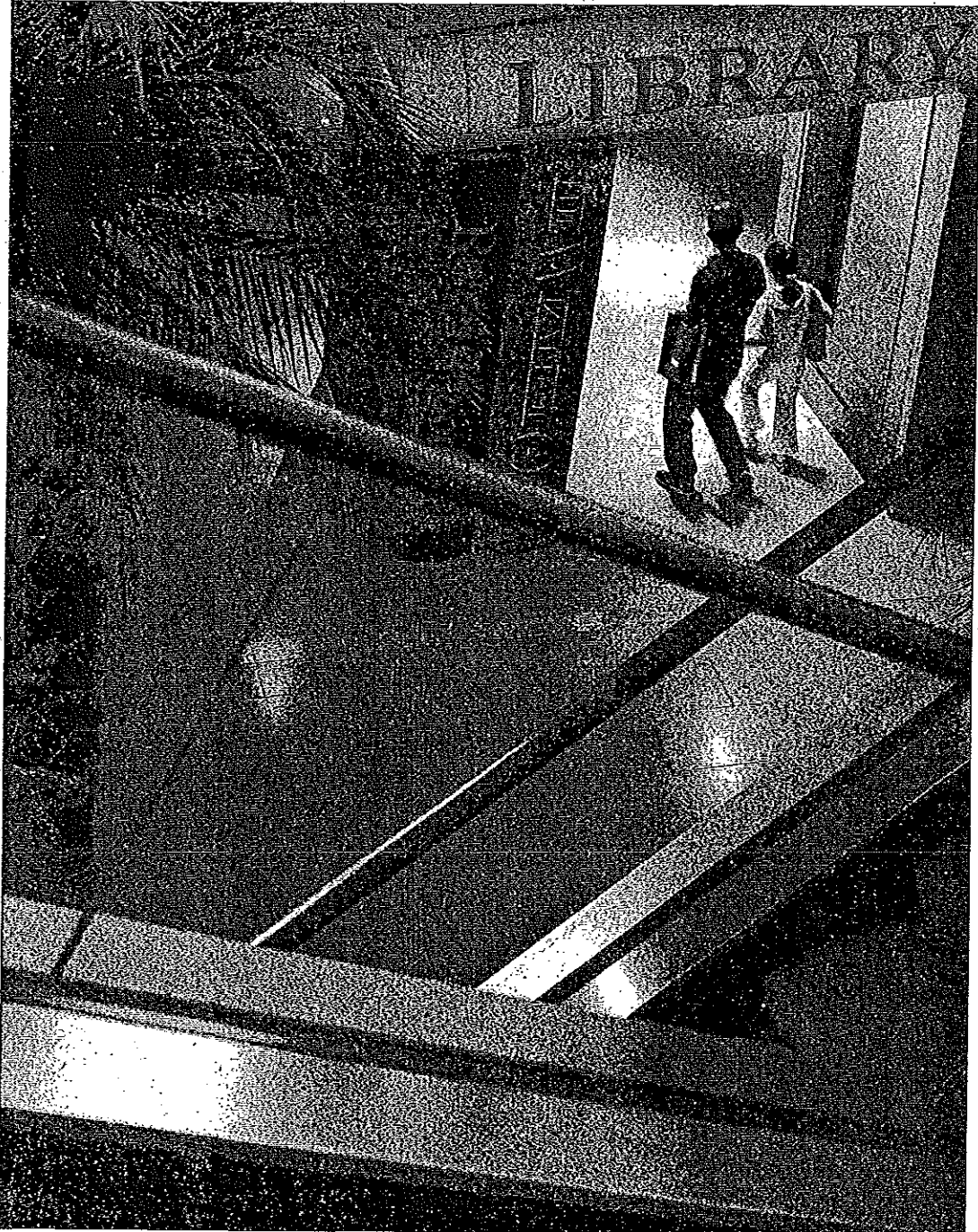
Register staff writers Eric Carpenter, Barbara Giasone, Amanda Strindberg and Amy Taxin and researchers Sharon Clairemont and Colleen Robledo contributed to this report.



DRAWERS DROPPED: Mission Viejo Library visitors search for books by computer instead of card catalog.

Some things you can do

- Rent movies
- Check out iPods to listen to music and audio books
- Have a wedding reception
- Take a yoga class
- Get a passport
- Attend a concert
- Connect via wireless Internet
- Attend a church service

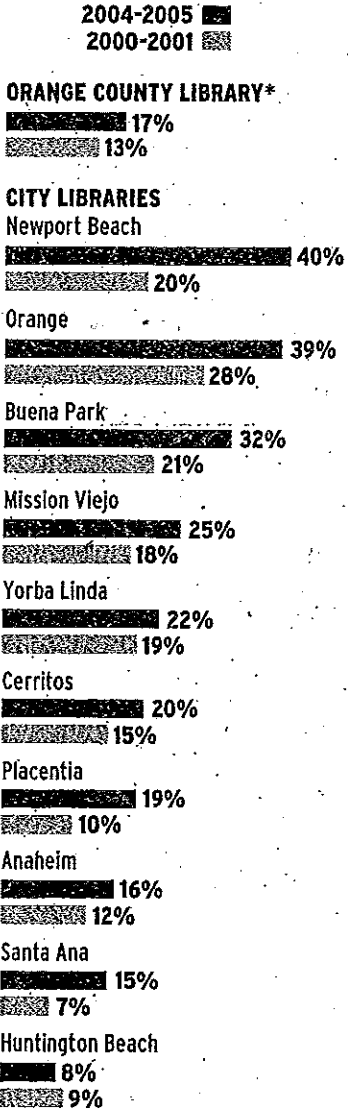


RYAN HODGSON-RIGSBEE, THE REGISTER

MARKETING: Young Cerritos Library users enter the children's section. Many libraries now target four distinct children's age groups - toddlers, elementary-school pupils, "twens" and teens.

Non-book circulation

Public-library patrons are checking out more non-book items such as music CDs and software than in the past. Here are the non-book percentages of all circulation at Orange County libraries, comparing last year to five years ago.



*Serves Fullerton, Aliso Viejo, Brea, Costa Mesa, Cypress, Dana Point, Fountain Valley, Garden Grove, La Habra, La Palma, Laguna Beach, Laguna Hills, Laguna Niguel, Laguna Woods, Los Alamitos/Rossmoor, Rancho Santa Margarita, San Clemente, San Juan Capistrano, Seal Beach, Stanton, Tustin, Villa Park and Westminster

Non-book circulation includes audiovisuals, microforms, software, graphics and all other non-print items.

Sources: California Library Statistics, California State Library

Electronic, traditional resources fight for funds

By JEFF ROWE
THE ORANGE COUNTY REGISTER

In any revolution, it's tough to know when to let go of the old and embrace the new.

Libraries are doing the equivalent of a one-arm hug of electronic sources - subscribing to some while maintaining a base of traditional subscriptions to paper magazines and journals.

"It's a very difficult decision," says Linda Katsouleas, director of library services for the Newport Beach Public Library. She says the decision is driven by demand - and given that people who live in Newport Beach tend to be fairly computer-savvy, the library has been leaning toward more electronic subscriptions and fewer traditional paper ones. In the case of newspapers and bulky journals, going electronic has advantages: Shelf-space needs are reduced, and more people can read an article at the same time.

Valerie Maginnis, director of library services for the Mission Viejo Library, estimates the cost of electronic subscriptions has fallen 10 percent to 15 percent in the past decade. For the current fiscal year ending June 30, the Mission Viejo Library will spend about a quarter of its \$330,000 materials budget on electronic subscriptions.

University libraries have become huge users of electronic information. Cal State Fullerton's library now subscribes to 160 electronic databases.

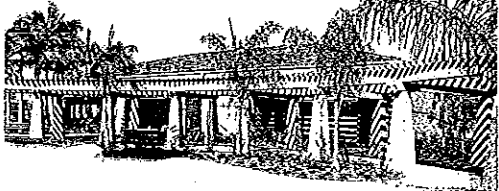
A peek at the Coastline Community College library offers a glimpse of what some libraries of the future may become. The library there serves thousands of students, about 5,000 military personnel around the world and 2,000 prisoners. Half the college's student body telecommutes.

Librarian Cheryl Stewart deals with them electronically. "I'm the invisible librarian."

Her biggest challenge: Helping the students understand the "vast difference" in what they can find free on the Internet and the quality research they can get in a library - even an all-electronic one.

READER POLL: Have you visited a public library in the past year? **Local 3**

Welcome to Placentia Library District



411 East Chapman Avenue
Placentia, CA 92870-6198
714-528-1906
www.placentialibrary.org

**Placentia Library
Board of Trustees**

Al Shkoler, President
Jean Turner, Secretary
Richard DeVecchio, Ed.D
Betty Escobosa
Gaeten Wood

**Placentia Library
Board of Trustees**

Upcoming Meeting Schedule:

Monday, July 31 at 6:30 P.M.
Monday, August 21 at 6:30 P.M.
Monday, September 18 at 6:30 P.M.
Monday, October 16 at 6:30 P.M.

Placentia Library Hours

Sunday	1:00 P.M. - 5:00 P.M.
Monday	9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Tuesday	9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Wednesday	9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Thursday	9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Friday	C L O S E D
Saturday	9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

(Passport Application & Notary Services end 30 minutes before the Library closes)

Placentia Library Managers

Elizabeth D. Minter
Library Director

James A. Roberts
Public Service Manager

Vernon Napier
Technical Services Manager

Wendy Goodson
Administrative Services Manager

LIBRARY CLOSED

**Sunday, September 3
&
Monday, September 4**

for

Labor Day
★☆☆★★★

Placentia Library Phone Numbers (714) 528-1906

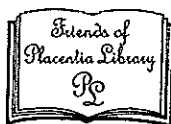
Circulation Desk Ext. 210
Renewal Information Ext.# 6
Adult Services Ext.# 209
Children Services Ext.# 212
Literacy Ext.# 213
Passport Information Ext.# 7
Volunteer Information Ext. #201
www.placentialibrary.org

USED BOOKSTORE



- ☑ Staffed entirely by Volunteers
- ☑ Located in the Placentia Library lobby

GREAT BARGAINS!!



Bookstore Volunteers Always Needed!

Sundays 3:00 - 5:00 P.M.
Mondays 6:00 - 8:00 P.M.
Tuesdays 4:00 - 6:00 P.M.
Saturdays 11:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.
Substitutes needed for additional hours

Please call 528-1925, Ext. 201 for information

SPECIAL BACKROOM SALE BARGAINS!! BARGAINS!! BARGAINS!!

When: Second Sunday of each month
1:00 - 4:00 P.M.
Upcoming Sales: Jul 9, Aug 13, Sep 10 & Oct 8

Where: BACKROOM where Friends sort and price donations - ENTER through delivery entrance from parking lot

What: Everything in stock



Why: To provide money to support Library needs while providing quality reading materials at low cost

amazon.com

**Shop at amazon.com
through Placentia
Library's website,
www.placentialibrary.org,
and a percentage of the
sale is donated to the
Library!**

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Tuesday	9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Wednesday	9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Thursday	9:00 A.M. - 6:00 P.M.
Friday	CLOSED
Saturday	9:00 A.M. - 5:00 P.M.

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Shop for the Library
shopforthelibrary.net

Shop for the Library


Now you can shop from more than 700 online merchants and help raise funds for the Placentia Library at the same time.

Whenever you make a purchase through the Shop for the Library website, up to 25% of the sale goes to benefit the Library!

**Become a Ralph's & Albertson's
Community Partner**

If you provide Placentia Library with your Ralph's and/or Albertson's ID number along with your address and telephone number, the Library can receive up to 5% of your grocery purchases as a donation.

Sign-up forms at the Circulation Desk or call 714-528-1925 Ext. 201.

**Placentia
Library
Literacy
Services**

Call Literacy Coordinators Jim Roberts or Toby Silberfarb if you or someone you know needs help in reading or speaking English.

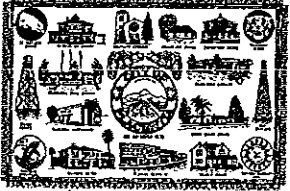
☎ 524- 8408, x215 or x213

Placentia Library Literacy Services

- Volunteer tutors needed!
- Attend one 3 hour training workshop
- Training workshops are held at the Library on the first Sunday of the month 1:30 – 4:30 P.M.
- The next scheduled workshops are:
Aug 6 – Sep 17 – Oct 1 – Nov 5

For more information and to sign up call 524-8408, Ext. 213

Placentia Historical Afghans



Green

On Sale Now at the Circulation Desk - \$63.00

Proceeds support the Placentia History Room

Placentia Library Hours

Sunday	1:00 - 5:00 P.M.
Monday	9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.
Tuesday	9:00 A.M. - 9:00 P.M.
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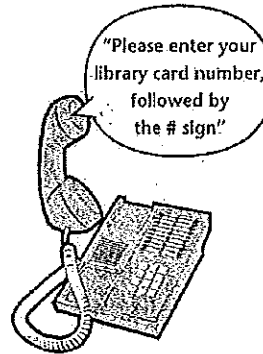
for

Labor Day
★☆☆★★★☆☆

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Circulation Desk Ext. 210
Renewal Information Ext.# 6
Adult Services Ext.# 209
Children Services Ext.# 212
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www.placentialibrary.org



Renew your books
by phone
Using Telecirc

714-765-1775
24 hours a day / 7 days a week

- 📖 Renew books
- 📖 Find out which titles you have checked out
- 📖 Find out which items you have on hold
- 📖 Find out which titles you have overdue
- 📖 Find out if you have any fines

Want to save some time?

Placing a reserve is the best bargain in town.

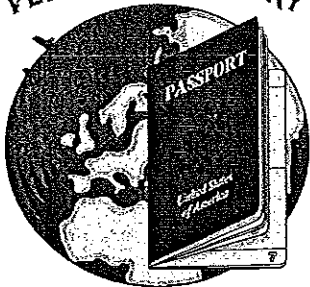
Place your reserve request online through the catalog at www.placentialibrary.org or by telephone to 714-528-1925, Ext. 209.

Staff will locate the item for you and hold it at the Circulation Desk for up to 10 days.

The fee is 50¢ per item, you will be notified by telephone when the item is ready to be picked up.


With Placentia Library Now!
Using Your Laptop -- NO FEES!

PLACENTIA LIBRARY



**Passport Application
Acceptance Agency**

**Passport & Notary
Services at Placentia Library**



Passport & Notary hours at Placentia Library:

Sunday	1:00 - 4:30 P.M.
Monday	9:00 A.M. - 8:30 P.M.
Tuesday	9:00 A.M. - 8:30 P.M.
Wednesday	9:00 A.M. - 8:30 P.M.
Thursday	9:00 A.M. - 5:30 P.M.
Friday	CLOSED
Saturday	9:00 A.M. - 4:30 P.M.

Placentia Library is an official U.S. Department of State
Passport Acceptance Agency.
For Passport information:
call 528-1906 Ext. 7 or visit the Library Website www.placentialibrary.org

**PLACENTIA LIBRARY
TAKES PASSPORT PHOTOS!**

4 PHOTOS FOR \$10

Shop for the Library
shopforthelibrary.net

Shop for the Library

Now you can shop from more than 700 online
merchants and help raise funds for the Placentia
Library at the same time.

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for the Library website, up to 25% of the sale goes to
benefit the Library!

**Become a Ralph's & Albertson's
Community Partner**

If you provide Placentia Library with your
Ralph's and/or Albertson's ID number along
with your address and telephone number,
the Library can receive up to 5% of your
grocery purchases as a donation.

Sign-up forms at the Circulation Desk
or call 714-528-1925 Ext. 201.

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www.placentialibrary.org

Placentia's Newest Local History For Children & Adults



Available At The
Library Circulation Desk
\$12.93 (including tax)

*Great Gift Idea
For Young & Old*

Lap-sit Story Times

Presented by Lin Baesler

Ages newborn to 24 months
Thursday Mornings
9:05 – 9:25 A.M.

in the
Childrens Area



Sponsored by the
Gordon & Dixie Shaw Endowment
No pre-registration required -no charge

Story Time I

for children
ages 6 and younger

Thursday Mornings
9:45 – 10:15 A.M.

*Presented by Lin Baesler
No pre-registration required -no charge*



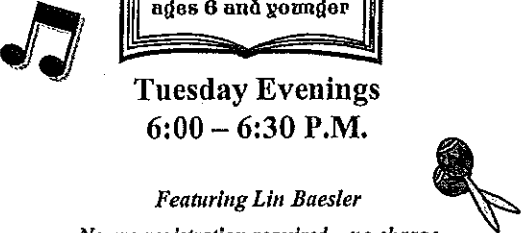
Story Time II

for children
ages 6 and younger

Thursday Mornings
10:30 – 11:00 A.M.

*Presented by Lin Baesler
No pre-registration required -no charge*

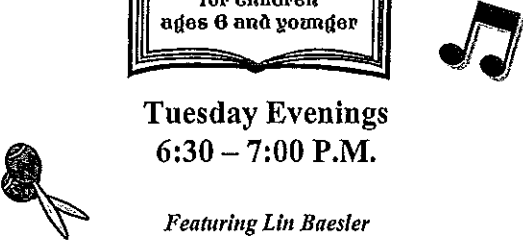




Music Time I
for children
ages 6 and younger

Tuesday Evenings
6:00 – 6:30 P.M.

Featuring *Lin Baesler*
No pre-registration required – no charge



Music Time II
for children
ages 6 and younger

Tuesday Evenings
6:30 – 7:00 P.M.

Featuring *Lin Baesler*
No pre-registration required – no charge



Music Time III
for children
ages 6 and younger

Wednesday Evenings
6:00 – 6:30 P.M.


Featuring *Lin Baesler*
No pre-registration required – no charge

**There will be no
Story Time
or
Music Time Programs
in August.**

Story Time at Home
Use the *Tumblebook Library*
at
www.placentialibrary.org
Click on: Just for Kids
Click on the Tumblebooks icon
An on-line collection of animated, talking picture books

Summer Reading Program
Event #5
Wild Animals
Tuesday, July 11
2:00 P.M.


Get Your Paws on a Good Book



Summer Reading Program sponsored by the Friends of Placentia Library.

Summer Reading Program
Event #6
Game Time
Tuesday, July 18
2:00 P.M.


Get Your Paws on a Good Book



Summer Reading Program sponsored by the Friends of Placentia Library.


Summer Reading Program
Event #7
Magic Show
Tuesday, July 25
2:00 P.M.

Get Your Paws on a Good Book




Summer Reading Program sponsored by the Friends of Placentia Library.

Summer Reading Program
Ends on Monday, July 31



Readers Are a Special Species

Read to the Dogs



Monday, July 31
Monday, August 28

6:00 P.M.
Specially trained dogs from
Bright and Beautiful Therapy Dogs, Inc.
(a non-profit corporation)

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Sign-up forms at the Circulation Desk
or call 714-528-1925 Ext. 201.



24/7 Reference

There are times you need help, but can't make it to the library. Live, real-time help from a librarian is available, 24 hours a day. *(no library card number needed)*

The Library Catalog

You can look up what books are available at the Placentia Library and all of the Anaheim Library branches. *(no library card number needed)*

Additionally, you can reserve books, check on your library account, and renew your books. *(library card number needed)*



Online Resources

(To access, you must have your library card number available)

- LearnATest
- Newspapers
- Facts On File
- Novelist
- General Reference Center/Magazine Index
- Business & Company Resource Center
- Health & Wellness Resource Center

Placentia History Room






**Staffed & Managed
by Librarians
& Volunteers**

**Hours
Monday & Tuesday &
Wednesday
1:00 – 3:00 P.M.**

Other hours by special arrangement

Placentia History Room








Displays currently featuring

-  Local school annuals
-  Traveling historical photographs of local schools
-  Books by local authors












Placentia History Room

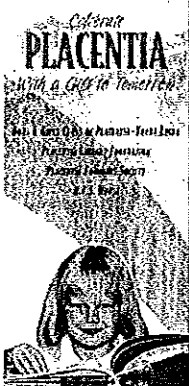
Historical Collections Include

 Bancroft's historical series	 Local citrus label collection
 Local oral histories	 Spanish made cannonball – possibly from the 1769 Portola Expedition
 California historical fiction	 Adobe brick from Ontiveras adobe built in 1832
 Complete collection of Women's Round table Scrapbooks	

Placentia History Room

Archival Resources Include

 West Atwood Yacht Club memorabilia	 Virginia Carpenter photograph collection
 Assorted Samuel/Louis Kraemer maps and papers	 Placentia Courier negative collection
 Articles on international student visit to Placenza, Italy	 Historic photograph collection
 West Placentia Little League	 Newspaper clippings, brochures, newsletters, maps of local historic interest
 International Kiwanis papers and scrapbook (1965-1974)	



Support Placentia Create A Legacy

For information
call 714-528-1925, Ext. 203
or visit www.placentialibrary.org

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Monday, September 4

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SAFETY COMMITTEE MEETING
JUNE 29, 2006
MINUTES

I. Call to Order: 10:20 A.M.

Members Attending: Katie Matas
Wendy Goodson
Caroline Gurkweitz

Members Absent: Esther Guzman

III. Old Business

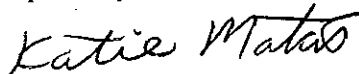
1. The fire extinguishers were serviced on June 1, 2006.
2. The broken Koala Seat in the public women's restroom was removed. A new one was ordered but has not arrived.
3. "PPE Don't Start Work Without It" and "Preventing Heat Illness" handouts were distributed at the May 3, 2006 staff meeting, and "Dealing with Bugs & Critters" and "Stress/Injury Prevention" handouts were distributed at the June 7, 2006 staff meeting.

IV. New Business

1. A light in the loading dock area was replaced on June 1, 2006.
2. There have been recurring problems with the main entry doors.
3. A locksmith disabled the doorknob locks on the Children's restrooms to keep children from locking themselves in.

The next meeting will be July 26, 2006 at 11:00 A.M.

Respectfully submitted,



Katie Matas

**PLACENTIA LIBRARY DISTRICT
LIBRARY DIRECTOR'S OFFICE**

TO: Library Board President
FROM: Elizabeth D. Minter, Library Director
SUBJECT: Public Hearings
DATE: August 15, 2005

Public Hearings

1. Announce the Public Hearing topic.
2. Declare the Public Hearing Open.
3. Ask for and listen to comments from the public. The Library Trustees should not respond directly to public comments as they will have an opportunity to speak after the hearing.
4. Declare the Public Hearing Closed.
5. Process Board discussion of the item.
6. Process motion to read resolution by Title only.
7. Have the Administrative Assistant or Library Director read the Resolution Title.
8. Motion to adopt the Resolution by roll call vote.
9. Have the Administrative Assistant or Library Director conduct the roll call vote.
10. Be sure that the results of the roll call vote are read in to the record.

