

Director's Report
April 2006

Donations

We received \$6,381.75 to the Book Fund in March, \$821.75 from sales of gift books, and a \$5,000 bequest from the estate of Suzann Powell.

Staff Activities

The Ugly Book Contest, under Lisa Maddalena's direction is now underway. Lisa also continues to draw large groups of children and parents at all three story times; however, due to our staffing shortage, she has not been able to make quite as many school visits as she would like.

Reference Librarian Jean Chapin continues to lead the monthly PG Reads Book Group. This month's selection is Murder Off Mike, by local author Joyce Krieg. Joyce will be joining the group that evening for the discussion at the little house in Jewell Park. Jean also recently served as an interviewer for the mock interviews conducted by the Career Center at P. G. High School.

Our sole paid shelver, Michael Cook, will be leaving us at the beginning of May. We also will be losing Kathleen Schaeffer, one of our part-time Library Assistants. Both Michael and Kathleen are leaving the area. They have done a great job for us and will be missed.

Budget

Please be advised that the budget document in this packet has not yet been reviewed by the City Manager. The City Department Heads will be meeting with the City Manager on Thursday, April 13, to review our respective budgets. A few weeks ago, I was given direction by the City Manager to prepare a budget that would include provisions for the Library to open on Sundays. The document enclosed includes what I feel we would need to reopen on Sunday as well as restore the hours on Wednesday and Thursday evenings. Bear in mind that only the part-time salaries are reflected here. The permanent, benefited positions are not included, and I don't know what the bottom line would be for those, but I have asked for the following: restoration of a full-time Library Assistant I/II to work both Circ and ILL, as well as expansion of the Administrative Secretary from three-quarter to full-time. I have no feel for whether the City's overall budget situation will enable us to add staff and restore those hours.

Note also that there is money allocated for termite treatment and carpet cleaning. The termite treatment will require that the library be tented and closed for several days. I will be meeting with the Public Works Supervisor soon to see when this might be done and if it might be possible to have the carpet cleaning done as soon as the building is "habitable," which would mean remaining closed an extra day or two to let the carpet completely dry. I do not want any of this to occur during Summer Reading.

Draft Internet Use Policy

Another item in the proposed FY06/07 budget is money to implement wireless access at the library. This has been the most frequently asked for service by patrons over the past year, and I believe we may be the only library on the Peninsula that is not a wireless access point. Adding wireless means the library's Internet use policy has to be revised, so I've included this on the agenda. See items 2.6 through 2.11. I have also asked the City Attorney for his input.

Friends of the Library

The Friends Board will meet next on April 18th.

ELLEN G. PASTORE
ACTING LIBRARY DIRECTOR