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State Librarian of California, Susan Hildreth

## Update from the State Librarian

Despite some challenging moments, it's been a good year so far. On January 9th, our Deputy State Librarian, Stacey Aldrich, and I were pleased to attend one of the first screenings of *American Idealist: Sargent Shriver at Sacramento's historic Crest Theater*. First Lady Maria Shriver was the executive producer of this moving film about her father's life. Watch for it on your local PBS station.

I was off to the American Library Association [Mid-winter Meeting](#) in Philadelphia on January 10th when the Governor released his proposed 2008/09 budget. Library staff gave me the budget news while I was stopped in Las Vegas, which is

ironic because both Las Vegas and the budget revolve around give and take. On the one hand, the January numbers included \$4 million dollars for the California State Library (CSL) to support implementing a new online library system and relocating CSL staff now in historic Library and Courts I to a temporary facility during two years of renovations. On the other hand, all library programs that the State's general fund supports were slated with a 10% decrease. This 10% decrease means reducing funds that support the CSL's actual operation by \$1.6 million and reducing local assistance by \$3.4 million, including \$1.4 million each from the Public Library Fund (PLF) and Transaction-based Reimbursement (TBR) Program. Because the budget did not allocate the operations reductions, we are still determining how to cope with the reduction.

On January 22nd, I presented a California library financing overview in Sonoma County with my articulate colleagues, Ann Cousineau, Director of the Solano County Library, Anne Cain, Director of the Contra Costa County Library, and Jane Light, Director of the San Jose Public Library who joined us via telephone. I enjoyed being in the beautiful wine country, and visiting a library system hard at work projecting its long-term facilities needs, an important task I know many in our state have done already!

My staff and I spent time in January and March strategizing with staff from [Libraries for the Future](#) (LFF) about collaborative projects. Our partnership with LFF began with the [Transforming Life after 50 Initiative](#); and now we are pursuing ways we can leverage LFF and CSL strengths and capacities to offer great new service opportunities for our libraries. There's more to come on this developing joint venture in the future!



California State Library, Library and Courts II.



## Update from the State Librarian, cont. from page 1

On January 27th, Carla Lehn and I went on an exciting jaunt to Monterey County where we participated in a lively public meeting at the Pacific Grove Public Library which is sadly facing some difficult budget times. The interest and commitment of the citizens to library services was exciting to see. On January 28th, we both participated in a literacy planning event at the beautiful new Monterey County Marina Branch Library. The [Community Foundation for Monterey County](#) which has made literacy a Foundation priority for several years is in the middle of its program and wants to develop plans to make sure this important initiative is sustainable. It was wonderful to see this commitment to literacy in Monterey County.

Senator Joseph Simitian, a great library supporter, has a keen interest in radio frequency identification (RFID) technology. Senator Simitian requested that the California Research Bureau analyze the literature and determine recommended best practices for implementation of RFID identification documents. I am chairing an expert advisory panel which has met twice this year to assist in developing these recommendations. The final report should be issued within the next few months and will be posted on the CSL website.

On February 13th, I attended a lovely lunch in the Grand Ballroom in Sacramento in honor of the [visit](#) of the President of Mexico Felipe Calderón and his wife Mrs. Margarita Zavala. The Governor and First Lady and legislative leaders all attended the distinguished event. I participated in another great lunch on February 20th when I met with staff attending [CSL Literacy](#) program training. I am very proud of all the good work that is done in our adult literacy programs.

On February 26th I attended the [California Association of Museums](#) Conference in Fresno and participated in a panel discussion on organizational models and support for cultural activities at the state level. Leveraging our cultural resources in California is a challenge because libraries, archives, museums and other cultural organizations are not together in one structure...yet!

At the February 28th [Library of California](#) Board meeting in Sacramento, Stacey Aldrich updated the Board on statewide reference activities; and the Board reviewed the resource-sharing budget reductions. Of course, the budget is a great concern to the Board which will express its reservations to the Governor and the Legislature.

March is California Association of Library Trustees and Commissioners ([CALTAC](#)) annual training month. On March 1st in San Mateo and March 15th in Orange, I provided updates on happenings in Sacramento and was fortunate to hear the great presentation done by Dr. Ken Haycock, Dean of the San Jose State School of Library and Information Science. Dr. Haycock shared a dynamic view of engaged and strategic trustees making the library a player in its community.

On March 14th I attended the South Pasadena Library's event honoring Ray Bradbury, a true literary and library hero, and it was a privilege to see him. Because I am traveling to the Public Library Association Conference in Minneapolis in late March, I will be able to give you a conference briefing and a good weather report (I hope) in the next column. Have a great spring.

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## 2007's 23 Things Experience: View from an Infopeep and CSL Staff

Over the summer of 2007 several staff at the California State Library (CSL), like many of their library colleagues throughout California, took [Infopeople's 23 Web 2.0 Things Challenge](#). CSL folks "played" on 23 websites and joined the infinite online communities behind blogs, wikis, Flickr, Facebook, Twitter and more.

Infopeople's Eileen O'Shea shares how Infopeople's 23 Things evolved, and how it's turning out, with *CSL Connection*:

Infopeople's 23 Web 2.0 Things Project dates back to April 2007 when we were launching Moving Libraries Forward to Web 2.0, a new training series that came about as a direct result of the State Librarian's interest in Web 2.0 and its tremendous transformational potential that is perhaps second only to the Internet itself. As we researched all things 2.0 to prepare for Moving Libraries Forward, we couldn't help but hear and read about the Public Library of Charlotte & Mecklenburg County's (PLCMC) [23 Learning 2.0 Things](#). It struck us that this would be a great thing to do here in California on a statewide basis. Various California libraries were also aware of the PLCMC project and asked



California State Library's 23 Thing enthusiasts on the steps of the Stanley Mosk Library and Courts Building in Sacramento  
(L to R: Pamela Martin, Jackie Siegel, Lillian Chow, Peggy Fish)

Infopeople if we could create a California version. The PLCMC graciously encouraged other libraries to copy and modify their original concept and thus was born Infopeople's ***Our 23 Web 2.0 Things Challenge***.

Using the PLCMC 23 Things as a jumping off point, we developed a modified set of 23 Web 2.0 Things for libraries to explore and created a [blog](#) to push out the Things and host the blogroll of participants. The Things ranged from creating a blog to editing a wiki, to learning about Twitter, to exploring Library Thing. The official challenge ran from May 9, 2007 to October 19, 2007 with over 200 people participating, and over three quarters completing all 23 things – a pretty amazing statistic! What also jumped out at us was the spread: public libraries, special libraries, school libraries, and academic libraries all took part. Reference librarians, catalogers, library school students –curiosity about Web 2.0 reached into all areas of the library world.

Though officially over, Infopeople's challenge has continued: new libraries are participating and we are adding new Web 2.0 things to the blog: we're up to 27 things and still counting! We encourage people interested in Web 2.0 to check out the blog and take on the challenge for themselves! Again, the URL for Infopeople's 23 Things blog is <http://our23things.infopeople.org/>

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# New and Renovated Library Openings Around the State

## Ingleside Branch Library Ground Breaking

The [San Francisco Public Library](#) held a ground breaking event for the new Ingleside Branch Library on Friday, February 15. The new library, a recipient of a Bond Act Grant of 2000, will be located on a prominent corner, and be part of the revitalization of Ocean Avenue. The 6,100 square foot library will include children and teen areas, public access computers and much, much more. The new Ingleside Branch Library is slated to open at the end of 2009.



Breaking ground for the new Ingleside Branch Library of the San Francisco Public Library include left to right: Sean Elsbernd (Supervisor); Luis Herrera (City Librarian); Jewelle Gomez (President, San Francisco Public Library Commission); Gerardo Sandoval (Supervisor); Bessie Condos (California State Library); Mayor Gavin Newsom; Reese Isabel (field representative for Assembly member Mark Leno); Al Harris (Library Commissioner); Edward Reiskin (Director, Department of Public Works). [Photo courtesy San Francisco Public Library]



*Pictured at Left:* San Francisco Mayor Gavin Newsom (center) looks on as members of the San Francisco Gold Barbershop Quartet perform at the Ingleside Branch groundbreaking ceremony. [Photo courtesy San Francisco Public Library]

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## Locally Funded Library Openings

Some California libraries have locally raised all funds for constructing or renovating library facilities in their communities. If you know of a library construction or renovation project in your area, please [email](#) CSL Connection Editor Sarah Dalton and we will include a profile of your library in an upcoming issue of *CSL Connection*.

## Roseville Public Library Opens New Joint Use Facility

Sunday, January 27 was a special day in Roseville because of the grand opening of the Martha Riley Community Library, Roseville Utility Exploration Center, and Roseville Community Television Studio, a unique joint use facility in Mahany Park next to the Roseville Sports Center. Named for longtime library advocate and former City Council Member Martha Riley, the 30,000 square foot building cost \$14.4 million. The city of Roseville has proudly applied for LEED



Ribbon cutting for the new Martha Riley Community Library in Roseville include left top right: Dianne Bish (former City Librarian); Derek Whitehead (Director of Environmental Utilities); Mike Shellito (Director of Community Services and Assistant City Manager); Tom Habishi (Director, Roseville Electric); Ted Gaines (Assembly Member); Carol Garcia (City Council Member); Martha Riley (Library Advocate); Jim Gray (Mayor of Roseville); Richard Roccochi (City Council Member). [Photo courtesy Anita Spicehandler]

[CONTINUED ON PAGE 15](#)



# Statewide Reference Project Update

Over the past several months, a team at the California State Library has been creating a plan for rethinking and retooling the Statewide Reference model. Our plan has been built on past surveys and studies, and is designed to gather more data to complete our understanding of information usage, and to create a process that will help us truly innovate how we can best provide information services to our communities. The plan consists of five stages:

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### Stage 1 – Data Collection (December – March 2008)

We have collected a lot of data, but one thing that seemed to be missing was information about Californians, and how they find and use information. We have been working with Zogby International to collect some snapshot data. The first poll was done via email and completed in January 2008 with 706 responses. Mid-March we launched the same survey on the web. Public libraries were invited to post the link on their websites. We hope to get more information from customers of the library in their information finding and usage behavior. We will compare this data with national trends and also use it for helping us design our new Statewide Reference model.

### Stage 2 – Think Tank Preparation (April 2008)

A small group of librarians from across the state will meet as our Think Tank Creators. They will work with our Futurist Facilitators Michele Bowman and Sandy Burchsted to design a Statewide Reference Think Tank process. This group will also look at all of the data gathered relating to statewide reference and develop new combinations to help the Think Tank be more informed.

### Stage 3 – Think Tank (Fall 2008)

In early Fall 2008, the Statewide Reference Think Tank will convene. Participants from across the state will gather for a 1 ½ days to think about information trends and data, and create three scenarios for what statewide reference could become. The details for the Think Tank and participation will be created by the Think Tank Creators.

### Stage 4 – Statewide Input (Fall 2008)

The three scenarios created by the Statewide Reference Think Tank will be shared in a CLA presentation and other venues for additional input from the library community. We will want input that identifies what scenarios or pieces of the scenarios will be most beneficial to all.

### Stage 5 – Build New Model (2009)

A Builders group will be formed to analyze the feedback from the input sessions, and to develop an action plan for creating the new statewide reference model.

The powerful and productive new system model we will build will have a strong foundation thanks to the outreach of California's library professionals.

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# State Spotlight: California State Railroad Museum Library

The [California State Railroad Museum Library](#) (CSRM Library), a California agency that is part of [California State Parks](#), has a rich and rare collection of source materials on railroading in the American West and the nation. Though the CSRM Library is a research library, any member of the public may access the library's historical treasures including its [Ephemera](#), [Manuscript Collections](#), [Maps](#) and [Photographs](#) in the library's reading room as well as through the library's online catalogs.

## CSRM Library customers: Not just "railfans"

The CSRM Library's customers, CSRM Librarian Cara Randall says, happily accept the archival library's visiting requirements, such as wearing gloves to examine historic photographs or limiting research tools to pencils. Most "railfans," Randall reports, are "obsessed in a good way with the story of the western railways and the items in our collection."

In addition to "railfans" - railroad modelers, corporate history buffs, and people restoring historic railroad equipment, among others - the CSRM Library's customers include professional researchers and historians from around the world. Students, from 4th graders writing reports to graduate students writing dissertations, also comb through the library's resources for information and images of the Iron Horse's great 19th-century push west and the lasting social changes it brought. Reference requests also come from genealogists and documentary film producers. Researchers can contact library staff by phone at (916) 323-8073, by email, or using the [contact form](#) on the CSRM website.

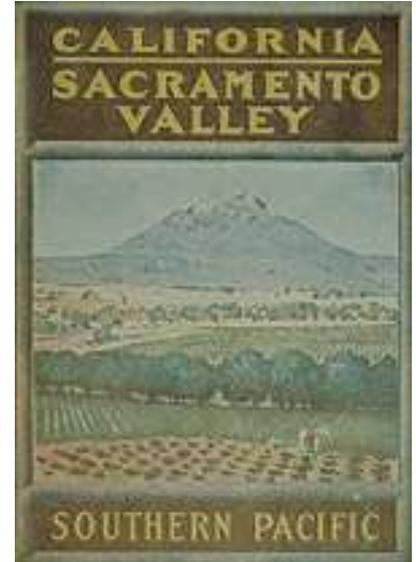
## Collection overview

Ellen Halteman, Director of Collections, was the librarian when the collections were first opened to the public in 1981. Halteman explains that since 1981, the library has greatly expanded its collections primarily through donations from individual and corporate benefactors.

The CSRM Library's many documentary collections focus on the history of railroads and railroading in California and the adjacent states from the 1850s to the present. Its diverse and extensive collection also includes selected railroad topics throughout North America. The CSRM Library emphasizes acquiring material relating to the social, economic, political, cultural, technological and environmental impacts that the industry has had, and continues to have, on the region.

The CSRM Library, which provides public access to the California State Railroad Museum's documentary collections, preserves over two million photographic images, extensive archival and manuscript collections and more than 250,000 technical drawings and maps from railroad companies and railroad-related equipment manufacturers connected to more than 4,500 corporate entities throughout North America. The CSRM Library also has voluminous holdings of corporate ephemera including public and employee timetables, promotional materials, menus, tickets, postcards and other railroad-related documents.

Primary access to the research collection is on-site in Old Sacramento. Online catalogs



Promotional brochure from California State Railroad Museum Library corporate collections  
[Photo courtesy California State Railroad Museum]



CALIFORNIA  
STATE LIBRARY  
FOUNDED 1850

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# Ninety Years of Health Insurance Reform Efforts in California

Assembly Speaker Fabian Nunez cited the California Research Bureau (CRB) report, *Ninety Years of Health Reform Efforts*, on the floor of the California Assembly while arguing for ABX 1 1, Nunez's bill which would establish universal health care coverage in California. Noting California's history of failures to enact universal health care legislation which the report summarizes, the Speaker said it was time for California to finally address Californians' health care needs.

Early in 2007 Governor Arnold Schwarzenegger, Nunez and Senate Pro Tempore Don Perata submitted proposals to establish a comprehensive health care coverage program. Discussions were held throughout the year. Late in 2007 the Governor and the Speaker negotiated the final proposal and reached a compromise. The Senate Pro Tempore did not participate in those negotiations. As the result of the Governor's and Speaker's leadership ABX 1 1 was adopted in the Assembly on December 17, 2007 by a vote of 46 to 31 and was defeated by the Senate Health Committee on January 28, 2008 by a vote of 7 to 1. Once again the efforts to provide health care coverage to all Californians were for naught.

In *Ninety Years of Health Reform Efforts* CRB Senior Health Researcher Michael Dimmitt Ph.D encapsulates the decades of popular and legislative universal health care deliberations to which the California Speaker referred. The earliest effort to establish universal health care coverage in California was Senate Constitutional Amendment 26 which Governor Hiram Johnson signed in 1917 and which was placed on the ballot in 1918. Later, Governor Earl Warren submitted at least four proposals to the Legislature. Overall, the report shows, the Legislature has considered 41 bills since 1918. There have also been 4 ballot propositions during the same interval with no program permanently established.

National efforts to establish a universal health care coverage program go back at least as far as Teddy Roosevelt's Progressive Party Platform in 1912. In 1994, Senator Robert Dole and President Bill Clinton each made a proposal for a restructuring of the health care coverage system. Most recently, President George W. Bush proposed a health care program to increase the number of people with insurance coverage. Also, the majority of candidates for president in 2008 offered proposals to reform health care coverage.

*Ninety Years of Health Reform Effort* was widely distributed in the fall to the Governor's office staff, legislators, legislative staff, executive branch departments and interest groups. The report increased the awareness of the state's efforts to achieve universal health care coverage. Likewise the report summarized how similar the antecedents of ABX 1 1 were to it. The CRB report filled in many gaps for the policy makers and interest groups. The report informed the debate on the efforts to establish a comprehensive health care coverage program.

With the defeat of ABX 1 1 and an uncertain future for a comprehensive health care coverage program, the CRB has submitted a grant proposal to the [California HealthCare Foundation](#) requesting funding for a series of seminars on issues related to health care reform. The seminars will extend the discussion on establishing a comprehensive health care expansion and continue the California Research Bureau's role in providing non-partisan policy neutral health policy research to the executive and legislative branches of California State Government. The target audience for the seminars would be gubernatorial staff, Legislators, legislative staff and executive departmental staff.

For further information please contact CRB Senior Health Researcher Michael Dimmitt Ph.D at (916) 657-2645 or email at [mdimmitt@library.ca.gov](mailto:mdimmitt@library.ca.gov).



# Customer-Centered Services in the Making at the California State Library

At the California State Library (CSL), customer service is a top priority. Within the CSL's State Library Services (SLS) Bureau, the division that manages the library's general reference and [government publications](#) resources, we have merged the Government Publications Section, and the State Information and Reference Center to form the Information Resources and Government Publications Section. This reorganization will make obtaining information and services more convenient for CSL customers.

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### Consolidating service points

In early 2007, the SLS management team and staff reviewed how to improve customer services for SLS customers. In considering how customers access CSL resources at the Library and Courts Stanley Mosk Building (LCI), staff realized that customers with a single query often have to move among three service points on the same floor to gather all the information they need. The SLS staff decided to simplify the CSL customer information gathering process by consolidating service desks – a task made difficult by the building's late-1920's architecture.



Librarian Suzanne Grimshaw (left) and Library Technical Assistant Donna Scales (right) at the new Information Resources and Government Publications Section service desks in the California State Library's historic Gillis Hall.

Providing a single service desk would not only improve customer service but would also free staff to develop new, value-added services for customers, such as scheduling appointments with staff members for in-depth discussions about their information needs and presenting online database training tailored to the specific needs of state agencies.

Just as the SLS team was planning the new service model, the CSL learned that the long-planned LC I building renovation was scheduled to begin in early 2009. Because of the extent of the renovation, the majority of CSL's 5-million volume collection would be housed in a remote location for the duration of the renovation. This news added another dimension to the service model planning. Since infrastructure improvements including wireless access were planned, the renovation would increase flexibility in planning for a single service desk.

SLS Bureau Chief Linda Springer says, "CSL administrators and managers wanted to be sensitive to our customers' needs and provide a service point close to the current building. The Library and Courts II building is directly across the street from LCI, and isn't large enough to accommodate the displaced collections. We saw, though, that we would be able to provide a customer service point in one of the reading rooms, and that it would be a good beta test for the single-desk service model. We would have an opportunity to work through problem areas before we return to the renovated building."

### Retiring Boomers accelerate change at CSL service desks

Other events changed the project course as well. The Baby Boomer exit began to affect the SLS service model planning. In mid-2007, several SLS staff retired or announced



# California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE) Profile: Reviving a Gold Country Relic - the Knight Foundry

A 132-year old industrial relic, the [Knight Foundry](#), lies in rural Amador County, in the town of Sutter Creek. During the last quarter of the nineteenth century, the Knight Foundry transformed iron into pickaxes, streetlight poles, and an assortment of gears that powered mines up and down the Mother Lode. The Knight Foundry Foundation has kept the foundry intact and expects it to run again, thanks in part to support from the California Cultural and Historical Endowment.

Samuel Newman Knight built the foundry in 1872 to improve on foundries that used steam power and burned as much as 100 cords of wood per day. Powered by water pressure, Knight's enterprise, which included 60 machines connected to a water wheel, was a 19th century engineering marvel.

Like many of America's industrial heirlooms, the Knight Foundry teetered toward demolition during the 20th century. Today, what remains of the country's last water powered ironworks is a brass and bronze shop, a blacksmith shop, a coke storage building, a rolled pipe-making building, a pattern loft, a buggy shed, a horse barn, a rivet shop, a wood shed and water operated saw, and machine shop, an arrangement of buildings with cracked windows, rusted roofs, and other problems.



Knight Foundry back wall showing damage and missing section on right side. [Photo courtesy Knight Foundry Foundation]

## Saving a 19th century heirloom



Knight Foundry Pipe Shop and Pattern Loft [Photo courtesy Knight Foundry Foundation]

An endangered site with the National Trust for Historic Preservation since 1996, the Knight Foundry is also an official project of the Save America's Treasures Program. Most recently, in August of 2007, the California Cultural and Historical Endowment (CCHE) entered into a \$50,000 contract with the Knight Foundry Foundation to investigate and identify on-site toxics. This current environmental study is intended to result in a remediation plan approved by the California Department of Toxics Substances Control. Once toxics are identified

and removed, the Knight Foundry Foundation will enter into an agreement with the City of Sutter Creek to purchase and re-open the forge. The City of Sutter Creek is also

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# California Library Awards

## Reforma Names California Librarian 2008 Librarian of the Year



Ron Rodriguez, 2008 Arnulfo D. Trejo Librarian of the Year

[Photo courtesy Ron Rodriguez]

The National Association to Promote Library and Information Services to Latinos and the Spanish-Speaking or Reforma has named Ron Rodriguez the 2008 Arnulfo D. Trejo Librarian of the Year. Rodriguez, who has worked in California libraries since 1984, is Access Services Unit Head in the Pollak Library at California State University at Fullerton. In 1989 Rodriguez was one of ten California individuals selected to participate in the California State Library's Transition into Management program.

Rodriguez says he is "humbled and honored" to receive the Reforma award. "I don't see myself as a Reforma superstar," Rodriguez says, "but as one librarian helping to promote the various issues Reforma has championed over the years. Looking back, some of the issues in 1982 are still 'in progress' today such as increasing the number of Latina/Latino librarians and encouraging graduate library schools to consider the diversity of our country's population in the courses offered.

These and other issues translate to more work ahead for the organization."

Rodriguez shares the award with his early mentors. "Certainly I would not be a librarian today if it wasn't for Karin Duran of California State University at Northridge (CSUN) and Albert Tovar of the City of Azusa Public Library," he says. "They inspired me in 1973 and 1977 respectively. John Ayala, retired Dean Emeritus of the Fullerton College Library, sparked in me an interest in the managerial side of academic libraries and that is still quite alive!"

For more information about Reforma and its various programs please visit <http://www.reforma.org/who.html>

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## California Preservation Program Awarded One of 19 National IMLS 2008 Connecting to Collections: Statewide Planning Grants

The California Preservation Program, a statewide preservation program administered by the Peninsula Library System, has been awarded a 2008 Connecting to Collections: Statewide Planning grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services (IMLS). The Peninsula Library System's program was one of only 19 libraries, museums, and archives nationwide to receive a grant.

Libraries, museums, and archives use the IMLS Connecting to Collections: Statewide Planning grants to create conservation plans for their collections. The California Preservation Program will undertake a one-year statewide planning project to create a shared vision for preservation among heritage institutions in California including 1300 museums, 5000 libraries and archives, 125 historical societies and over 500 state park facilities. The California Preservation Program will partner with the California Association of Museums, the California State Library, California State Parks, and Historic Monterey in this effort.

For the full IMLS press release, please visit: <http://www.imls.gov/news/2008/012308.shtm>.

For more information about the California Preservation Program, please visit <http://calpreservation.org/>.



# Rincon Branch of the Livermore Public Library to Present "It's a REEL World After All: Teens Making Movies" at ALA Poster Session in June

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Logo for the program "REEL FOCUS: Teen Learning through Video Creativity" [Logo design courtesy Karl Pontau]

"Reel Focus: Teen Learning through Video Creativity," a filmmaking program for low-income teens, developed by staff at the Rincon Branch of the Livermore Public Library, and funded by a Library Services and Technology Act (LSTA) grant, is an innovative project from which people who work in the nation's public libraries can learn. Donna Pontau, former Rincon Branch Manager, was so sure her national colleagues would want to know about "Reel Focus" she proposed "It's a REEL World After All: Teens Making Movies" to the [Young Adult Library Services Association \(YALSA\)](#) for a poster session at the 2008 [American Library Association \(ALA\)](#) Annual Conference in Anaheim June 30.

Pontau had the right idea. YALSA and ALA selected the Rincon Branch's proposal -- an honor for a California public library.

Mary Sue Nocar, Supervising Librarian at the Rincon Branch, is now overseeing the program and says of the ALA tribute, "We're thrilled to be going to ALA and to be sharing information about how we organized 'It's a REEL World After All: Teens Making Movies.' We're looking forward to showing other public libraries how a local library can offer 5th through 12th grade students from low-income families opportunities they might not find elsewhere."

Not only do our kids get to work with high-tech and costly filmmaking equipment, they also learn study skills," Nocar says. "While making films, they write, plan, organize, edit, and outline. They also speak before groups, and use math to calculate tables and costs." Nocar says that by June the Rincon Branch will be able to show ALA-attendees films of the kids at work, "a really exciting component of our poster session," she says.

The Rincon Branch team named their ALA program "It's a REEL World" as a friendly nod to "It's a Small World," the legendary ride at the 2008 Conference's Anaheim neighbor, Disneyland.

For more information about the 2008 ALA Annual Conference, please visit <http://www.ala.org/ala/eventsandconferencesb/annual/2008a/home.cfm>.



Jason Ryder, Reel Focus Instructor and filmmaker, instructs students before a cascade shoot. (A cascade shoot is an exercise where students change crew positions every scene so that each receives experience in all positions.) [Photo courtesy of Mary Sue Nocar]



Sandy Fouts, part of the team who wrote the Reel Focus grant, and Mary Sue Nocar, Program Coordinator [Photo courtesy Eileen Contento]



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# USC Shoah Foundation Institute Website Powerfully Enhanced



USC Shoah Foundation Institute logo

The [USC Shoah Foundation Institute](#) at the University of Southern California (USC), an archive of nearly 52,000 videotaped testimonies from Holocaust survivors and other witnesses, has a newly redesigned website with user-friendly interactive exhibits, high resolution video testimony clips, and lesson plans which can be a great resource for public libraries, and public library customers.

USC Shoah Foundation Institute Executive Director Douglas Greenberg says the Institute's work, particularly the new website, supports the efforts of California's libraries. Greenberg says, "Ignorance is bigotry's greatest ally. By sharing testimony clips of Holocaust survivors and witnesses online, the USC

Shoah Foundation Institute and California's public libraries can bring communities together to discuss how to overcome intolerance and bigotry."

## Effective tools for engaging customers

The USC Shoah Foundation Institute's primary online resources, now in easy-to-use formats, encourage the public to watch, listen, think, and learn. The website's accessible tools support people in discussing not just the Holocaust, but tolerance; and teaching tolerance is the mission of the USC Shoah Foundation Institute.

Library staff, educators and other community leaders can download interactive [exhibits](#) or [lesson plans](#) from the USC Shoah Foundation Institute website. The testimony clips are arranged by themes such as hiding, pre-war (normal life), post-war, camps, and ghettos, or arranged by the speaker's experience group such as Jewish survivors, liberators, and political prisoners, among others. If libraries want to engage a targeted customer group, such as teens, the Institute's interactive exhibits can be potent program tools. "Surviving Auschwitz" and "Children Speak" (survivors who were children during World War II sharing the timeless struggle for identity), for example, give users one-on-one encounters with survivors.



USC Shoah Foundation Institute's *Online Testimony Viewer*  
[Photo courtesy USC Shoah Foundation Institute]

## USC Shoah Foundation Institute beginnings, California State Library support

According to the USC Shoah Foundation Institute [website](#), in 1994 the Academy Award© winning director Steven Spielberg, "inspired by his experience making *Schindler's List*," established the Survivors of the Shoah Visual History Foundation to gather video testimonies from survivors and other witnesses of the Holocaust. Thousands of volunteers with video cameras were trained to record survivor



## 2007's 23 Thing Experience, cont. from page 3

### A view from the CSL

By following Infopeople's [easy steps](#), CSL staff judged first-hand which of the 23 online tools were confusing or faddish, and which were solid vehicles capable of delivering superior library service to diverse customers. Some, they discovered, were a little of both. CSL Connection talked to 4 CSL staff members who finished all 23 Things.

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When **Jackie Siegel**, former CSL librarian and current information systems analyst in the CSL's Information Technology Bureau, logged on to Thing 9, Twitter, she considered how [Twitter](#) might be useful for a library. Looking at the public timeline Siegel saw "a visual cacophony of coffee breaks, music choices, and friend meet-ups interspersed with the occasional Japanese tweet." It looked, she says, "absolutely worthless. I added a few short tweets myself and all I was doing was talking to myself."

Luckily, a librarian in Alaska introduced Siegel to library uses for Twitter through his blog. As the Alaska librarian wrote about his Twitter experiences, he invited other librarians to also try Twitter. Siegel says after she sent the Alaska librarian a message, he "hooked me up with other twittering librarians throughout the United States."

Siegel learned that Twitter is an informal, friendly way to connect with others both professionally and socially. She says that some libraries are using Twitter to announce new books, others to announce events, and that one library is posting interesting reference questions.

Today, Siegel regularly networks with librarians coast to coast, from Alaska to Florida. By following librarians' postings, Siegel not only has her "finger on the pulse of librarianship" throughout the country, she is able to use Twittering librarians' expertise in computer related issues at the California State Library. "And," she says, "We also share recipes!"

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Though **Pamela Martin**, a research analyst in the California State Library's California Research Bureau, knew quite a bit about Web 2.0 tools before joining Infopeople's 23 Things Challenge, she wanted to learn more. The research analyst was happy to find most of the 23 applications practical in all sorts of settings, not just libraries.

Martin's best Thing experience was learning the "ins and outs" of Really Simple Syndication (RSS) feeds. By working through the RSS tutorial, Martin discovered that "online newspapers, public agencies, and (of course) blogs offer RSS feeds as an alternative to e-mail notifications. All I had to do was sign up for [Bloglines](#), a free service which captures the published works and lets me read them at my convenience."

While researching a paper on a Central Valley water issue, Martin kept track of a prolific water policy blog called [Aquaforia](#). "This blog," she says, "as well as feeds from local newspapers, offered a direct look at what local citizens were doing and saying on my subject. Since then, I have also found quite a few good blogs written by education policy analysts and governance experts, which I have added to my Bloglines account."

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**Peggy Fish**, a librarian at the California State Library (CSL), thinks her CSL customers could really use Thing 11, [Library Thing](#), a site on which people share personal book reviews and book lists, join on-line book clubs and catalog personal libraries. "The 'suggestion' aspect of Library Thing," Fish says, "is a great tool. Its similar to the Amazon way of identifying books for the reader based on what he or she is reading now."

Fish reports that a professor at San Francisco State University (SFSU) has applied a Library Thing-like widget to the SFSU Library catalog. Fish suggests checking-out the SFSU Library catalog on the website <http://www.library.sfsu.edu/>, pulling up a



## State Spotlight, cont. from page 6



Railroad timetables from California State Railroad Museum Library ephemera collections. [Photo courtesy California State Railroad Museum]

in selected formats are also available within the "[Library & Collections](#)" portion of the Museum's website. Digital content currently includes selected photographs of railroad passenger cars from the Pullman Company as well as colorful dining car menus. In addition, with funding from an IMLS/LSTA grant (2001-2004), the CSRM Library partnered with three Sacramento institutions to create [Sacramento History Online](#), a digital resource documenting agriculture and transportation in the Sacramento region from the mid-nineteenth to the early twentieth century. This website highlights not only photographs but also printed materials such as pamphlets, broadsides, tickets and posters.

### A resource for public library customers

People who work in California's public libraries may wish to refer customers looking for information on railroading

in the west to the CSRM Library's [Online Catalogs Home Page](#). The CSRM Library is located immediately to the west of the Railroad History Museum on the second floor of 111 "I" Street. The reading room is open to the public without charge Tuesday through Saturday from 1:00 to 5:00 p.m.

Library customers may also be interested to know that the CSRM Library is part of State Parks' Capitol District, a historic California destination which, in addition to the California State Railroad Museum includes the Governor's Mansion, the Leland Stanford Mansion, and Sutter's Fort, all of which are State Historic Parks.

For more information about the CSRM Library, please visit the "Library & Collections" section of the California State Railroad Museum website at ([www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org](http://www.californiastaterailroadmuseum.org)).

## 2007's 23 Thing Experience, cont. from page 13

keyword [she used "Lincoln"], finding a book to review, and following the link to More Information. "This type of tool," Fish says, "would be so great to provide CSL customers. Just connecting with Library Thing would be an easy way to start the process of providing a little extra online service."

Before embarking on the 23 Things, **Lillian Chow**, Senior Librarian in the California State Library Technical Services unit and former Librarian in the Witkin State Law Library, had used several bookmarking websites but not [del.icio.us](http://del.icio.us). Chow was excited to give this online bookmarking website accessible from any computer, a try.

Chow discovered [del.icio.us](http://del.icio.us) was useful not only for her personal bookmarks but for links she uses at work. "In the Witkin State Law Library, we had put our selection of legal links into a web page which we had on our library computers and also emailed out to interested customers because it is not available online," Chow says.

[Del.icio.us](http://del.icio.us) became the Witkin State Law Library's "next step forward," according to Chow. "I added all the links from the web page to an account at <http://del.icio.us/csllaw>. Using tags allowed me to assign keywords so that users could get all the links on a subject (such as "decisions") previously spread out on the web page. Features like tags and viewing links that others are adding, as well as putting our collection of links online, make [del.icio.us](http://del.icio.us) a worthwhile tool for enhancing our customer service."

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## **New and Renovated Library Openings**, cont. from page 4

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Certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) at the gold level for the new facility which meets stringent federal standards for energy efficient buildings and is partially constructed from recycled materials. Upon receipt of the award, the extraordinary structure will be the first LEED Certified building in Roseville. Of further benefit to the community, the facility can quickly be turned into an Emergency Operations Center during major civic emergencies such as floods.

Mike Shellito, Assistant City Manager and Community Services Director, states "Both the Riley Library and Exploration Center are cutting-edge facilities designed to merge new technologies and concepts in a contemporary educational environment. They represent our city's ability to keep pace with the needs of our community, while offering opportunities that will empower our residents like never before."

The Utility Exploration Center, funded by the Roseville Electric Company, has a 5,000 square foot museum on natural resources, renewable energy and sustainable practices. It also has \$1.7 million in exhibits that include interactive maps, diagrams, high tech video displays and environment-friendly product samples for homeowners. All of the center's energy comes from renewable sources, and 100% of the water for landscape irrigation is recycled.

The Roseville Community Television Studio, with high-tech editing software and production equipment that allows residents to create dynamic programming on local community-access television, offers a complete upgrade over the existing studio.

The Riley Library, a two story facility of 14,000 square feet and the third public library in the city, cost \$7.3 million (general fund) and is the first library built in Roseville since 1990. It is stocked with \$500,000 worth of new materials including books, DVD's, CD's, video games, magazines and newspapers. Its collection of 30,000 items has many environmental education materials to complement the Utility Exploration Center, along with Zoomtext keyboards and software on three computers throughout the library to facilitate computer use for people with vision challenges.

The first floor houses a circulation area, two self checkout machines, 12 children Internet computers, media collections for adults, teens and children, and a delightful children's area with a specially designed life-size oak tree sculpture -- a perfect place for story time and family reading. The Riley Library also has a community meeting room with kitchen facilities for after-hours events. The second floor includes the adult and teen collections of books, magazines, and newspapers, 27 Internet computers for adults and teens, 3 study rooms, and a "no cell phone zone" lounge space overlooking Mahany Park. One of the outstanding features on the second floor is the Teen Area that is ringed by industrial style metal framework on which are mounted 6 flat screen televisions that are used to show educational programs, music, movies, and computer games.

The new library is part of a unique partnering effort between municipal agencies and the community has been very receptive. Rachel Delgadillo, Acting City Librarian, says "Library staff, staff from Roseville Electric, and members of other City of Roseville Departments joined together to plan this joint use facility and have made this a positive experience for all who were involved."



One of the outstanding features in the Martha Riley Community Library is a specially-designed life-size oak tree in the Children's Area which brings the outdoors into the library. This is a perfect place for story times and for sharing books. [Photo courtesy Chris Shepard, City of Roseville Communications Division]

## New and Renovated Library Openings, cont. from page 15

### San Marino Opens New Crowell Public Library

The Crowell Public Library, built on the same site as its predecessor, the San Marino Public Library, opened on Saturday, January 26, 2008. The city provided \$5.5 million toward the total cost of the new 29,400 square foot facility and residents, businesses, and local foundations provided the remaining \$10.6 million. The San Marino community was heavily involved in planning the new library. In addition to surveying the community, library planners held focus groups with library users, trustees, Friends of the Library, foundation members, and children. The architects, just before the design stage, held several meetings to gather impressions and design ideas from community members. The library is named for the Donald Crowell family who wanted to give a lasting contribution to the San Marino community where the Crowell family was raised. Suzanne Crowell, former mayor, council member, library supporter and local resident, provided a \$4 million gift for the library.



Local residents checking out the Crowell Public Library adult collection area on opening day. [Photo courtesy Daryl Chan]



The new Crowell Public Library's Mediterranean style is designed to blend in with other buildings in the area. Several important features from the old library including the Beatrix Potter stained glass pieces and the carved Chinese Teak Doors are included in the new building. [Photo courtesy City of San Marino]

Special areas in the library include: a computer lab with 13 computers; a homework center; a Young Adult Area; 3 small group study rooms; a large community meeting room; a small conference room; a Friends of the Library Book Shop; a large patio for outdoor gatherings and a small reflective courtyard; and 91 computers in the library for public and staff use. In addition, there is direct power and data access in all seating areas and in the homework center, and the building is wireless.

The new space offers new opportunities for expanded services for all ages including arts and music programs to showcase local talent and resources. The Library Foundation worked hard to bring in \$10.6 million and they are continuing their fundraising efforts

with an annual campaign or endowment program to support the library in the future.

Summarizing the new library, City Librarian Carolyn Crain says, "The Crowell Public Library is a beautiful, well designed, 21st century library that addresses the needs of all library users and provides flexibility for adjustments over the years. It combines comfortable reading spaces with active learning spaces and effective public meeting spaces in an atmosphere of natural lighting and rich, colorful hues. The community has expressed absolute delight in the new library and I am very proud of the results. Many, many people and groups participated in making this dream come true and the dream turns out to be a real jewel in San Marino."

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## **New and Renovated Library Openings**, cont. from page 16

### **Edenvale Branch Library Opens in San Jose**

The Edenvale Branch Library, which opened on November 3, 2007, is the most recent addition to the San Jose Public Library System. Funded by a \$212 million library bond measure approved by San Jose voters in November 2000, Edenvale is one of San Jose's larger branches at 22,222 square feet at a cost of \$9.7 million. A unique feature of the library is a glass and steel plant canopy overhanging the Marketplace Area near the library entrance. In creating the public art installation, the artist brought images of the natural world inside including four California native plants-- redbud, purple needle grass, California buckwheat and black walnut. Community members remark that the building's exterior, which evokes the angles and planes of Frank Lloyd Wright's architecture, provides an interesting contrast to the building's wonderful open interior display of circles and curves.

To collect information on the community's needs, the Edenvale Branch Library's architectural group facilitated three public meetings over a six month period. The outcome of these gatherings helped identify key services and areas for the library. Today, the new Edenvale Branch Library's amenities and areas include: an Internet café; a community living room with a fireplace; a technology center; group and study areas; a community meeting room with space for 100 people; 50 public computers; a homework center for students in grades K-12; a glass enclosed Teen Area; and a clearly defined Family Place that encourages parents, caregivers, and children to share reading experiences. The technologically advanced building can also support special library services such as beginning and intermediate computer skills classes, movie screenings in the Teen Area after school and on weekends, and other multimedia programs including gaming.

The San Jose Public Library Foundation chose "Branching Out: From Dream to Reality" for its fundraising campaign which provides funding for furnishings and equipment for each new branch library. More than \$75,000 has been raised for Edenvale to date with donations coming from corporate entities and from the community-at-large. Edenvale Branch Library serves an area that had no convenient library nearby. The community has enthusiastically embraced the new library—5,000 visitors attended the opening day festivities and by the day's end, 8,000 items had been checked out. San Jose Public Library Director Jane Light says, "

Edenvale Branch Library is the tenth project that we've completed under the Branch Library Development Program and we are fortunate in being able to immediately take what has been learned from all previous projects and apply that knowledge to the next project. By the time we are finished in 2011, the entire branch system will have been replaced with new and modern facilities (including three pre-bond renovations) that are in all ways equipped to suit the lifestyle needs of today's library customers."



The Edenvale Branch Children's Area is particularly attractive with an open display of circles and curves.

[Photo courtesy San Jose Public Library]



The Edenvale Branch Library uses a distinctive branding concept with clearly defined zones and consistent use of attractive display signage.

[Photo courtesy San Jose Public Library]

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## New and Renovated Library Openings, cont. from page 17

### Monterey County Opens New Marina Branch Library

The new Marina Branch of the Monterey County Free Libraries (MCFL) opened on September 29, 2007. The new library cost \$8 million and was funded by library bonds approved by the voters of the City of Marina in November 2002 by a 79.6% vote. To assist the City of Marina in purchasing the \$560,000 library site, the Marina Larger Library Committee raised over \$450,000 in donations from the community

The new building includes an 11,000 square foot library, a 2,000 square foot community room, a 1,500 square foot lobby and the 7,5000 square foot Administrative Offices of the Monterey County Free Libraries. Funds from the sale of the old Monterey County Free Libraries Administrative Offices in Salinas helped the city pay for the construction of the new offices. MCFL provides staff and materials for the new library that the City of Marina owns. The Marina Branch is built on land purchased from the Monterey Peninsula Regional Park District, which owns the surrounding 27 acre Locke Paddon Community Park.

Special features in the new library include a community room with seating capacity for 86 persons, an outdoor patio, a Teen Room with café furniture, a Homework Center with 16 computers with a selection of black-and-white or color laser printers, three study rooms, a large Children's Room with story time area, 22 public Internet access computers, three self-checkout stations, a self-service holds pick-up area, a public WiFi Network, and a children's playground.



Cutting the ribbon for the new Marina Branch Library from left to right: Oliver Craig (Marina Chief Building Officer); Jayanti Addleman (County Librarian); Edith Johnson (former Mayor and former County Supervisor); Ila Mettee-McCutchon (Marina Mayor); Claudia Link (Aide to Supervisor Jerry Smith); Jennifer Lagier (Director Monterey Regional Parks District); and Lenora Masterson (President, Larger Library Committee). [Photo courtesy W. Salbacka]

The new facility makes many library services and programs possible. The new homework center computers have enabled the library to partner with the City of Marina and the Monterey/Pacific Grove Adult School and offer seniors two computer classes per week. The Community Room has allowed the library to offer special library programming such as a Holiday Music Program featuring 21 musicians; an opportunity for MCFL to partner with other community organizations to host programs for the public such as an area-wide literacy conference, and a dance/live music/storytelling performance.



Crowds waiting to get a glimpse of their brand new Marina Branch Library on opening day. [Photo courtesy R. Cauntay]

The new Marina Branch is green inside and out. Natural light, automated lighting controls, and clerestory windows save energy, and trees shade the landscaped parking lot which has environmentally sustainable features such as storm water retention and bioswales that remove silt and pollutants from surface runoff water. The area around the building is landscaped with drought-tolerant

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## New and Renovated Library Openings, cont. from page 18

materials which transition to the native grasses and plants in Locke Paddon Community Park.

Marina Branch Library Manager Kurt Elliso says the new Library and MCFL Administrative Offices “have become a subject of civic pride in the Marina community. For our library staff, the new facility makes it fun to come to work and hard to leave, especially when one can see the sun set behind the cypress trees through the library’s spacious windows.”

Jayanti Addleman, County Librarian, says “On opening day when the ribbon was cut and we saw the waves of crowds rushing toward the entrance to the library rather than towards the stall that was handing out free hot dogs and hamburgers, I knew that I was in the right profession. There is nothing as gratifying as seeing a project, which has so much community support and which fills a need in the community, move to completion so smoothly.”

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### San Francisco Public Library Opens Glen Park Branch Library

The San Francisco Public Library’s (SFPL) Glen Park Branch was the sixth branch to be completed under the Branch Library Improvement Program, which is funded by a \$105.9 million bond measure passed by voters in November 2000. The 30-year old branch, one of four currently housed in leased facilities which will be replaced by city-owned buildings, replaces a little 1,500-square-foot library. Project costs totaled about \$5.5 million. A separate fundraising campaign by Friends of the San Francisco Public Library provided new furniture and equipment for the branch.



Cutting the ribbon for the new Glen Branch Library from left to right: Sharon Dezurick, former Branch Manager; Brian Bannon, Chief of Branches; Mayor Gavin Newsom; unidentified young library enthusiast; Donna Bero, Executive Director, Friends of the San Francisco Public Library; Luis Herrera, City Librarian; Supervisor Bevan Dufty; Steve Coulter, Library Commissioner; Jose Cisneros, City Treasurer; and Ed Lee, City Administrator.

[Photo courtesy San Francisco Public Library]

The Glen Park Branch opened with a grand gala on Saturday, October 13, 2007. Mayor Gavin Newsom, City Librarian Luis Herrera, Assemblywoman Fiona Ma, Supervisor Bevan Dufty, Steven A. Coulter., San Francisco Public Library Commission, Fred Abadi, Department of Public Works, Donna Bero, Friends of the San Francisco Public Library attended the festivities for the branch’s new building. As part of the celebration, the street in front of the library was closed off and transformed into a community festival with entertainers, food, giveaways, and local merchant booths.

Located on the second floor of a multi-use building, the new branch features a beautiful public art display in the glass-enclosed foyer, special children and teen areas, a state-of-the-art program room, new shelving for a books and materials collection that’s at least 40 percent larger, more computers, Wi-Fi access to the Internet and ergonomic staff work spaces.

In addition to new technologies, expanded collections and shelving spaces, the new

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**Customer -Centered Services**, cont. from page 8

retirement plans. Other staff members migrated to vacated jobs within the CSL. As a result, two of the three SLS service sections, the Government Publications Section and the State Information and Reference Center, experienced staff shortages significant enough to make managing two sections and staffing two service desks increasingly difficult.

Continuing to plan for the service desk merger with this new wrinkle, CSL administrators and managers decided to begin reducing service desks by merging the two sections right away, reducing the number of service desks from three to two, while plans continued for the single-desk service model. The staffing structure was reviewed and reorganized to provide the needed support. The former State Information and Reference Services and the Government Publication Section became Information Resources and Government Publications (IRGP). The new manager of IRGP, Sabah Eltareb, immediately assigned a staff task force to work on the single-desk model for the combined unit. Before planning was finalized, a virus struck several staff members simultaneously, closing one of the service desks for two days. The impromptu merger showed Eltareb, the task force, and CSL management that merging the two desks was feasible and Eltareb asked the planning team to accelerate the timetable.

In early March 2008, the planning group finalized a plan to merge heavily used items into the general reading room, Gillis Hall. Thanks to the effective planning and hard work of SLS staff, there was minor disruption to services during the relocation of materials and services continued as usual. CSL customers are receiving more convenient services, and staff members are learning new resources through cross-training. The first phase of the new customer-centered service model is in place at CSL.

**New and Renovated Library Openings**, cont. from page 19



City street is closed off for Glen Park Branch community festival.  
[Photo courtesy San Francisco Public Library]

Glen Park Branch is more accessible with talking directional signs, a power assist front door, and an elevator. It also has a street level after-hours book drop, express checkout machines, energy efficient mechanical and lighting systems, abundant daylight, clear signage, and new furniture.

City Librarian Luis Herrera says of the San Francisco's new neighborhood branch, "Our Glen Park Branch is a wonderful feather in SFPL's cap. Its alluring architecture, paired with its expanded collections and accessibility, makes the Glen Park Branch an ideal community space and has become the civic anchor for the neighborhood."

Branch Manager Denise Sanderson says customers are elated with their new library,

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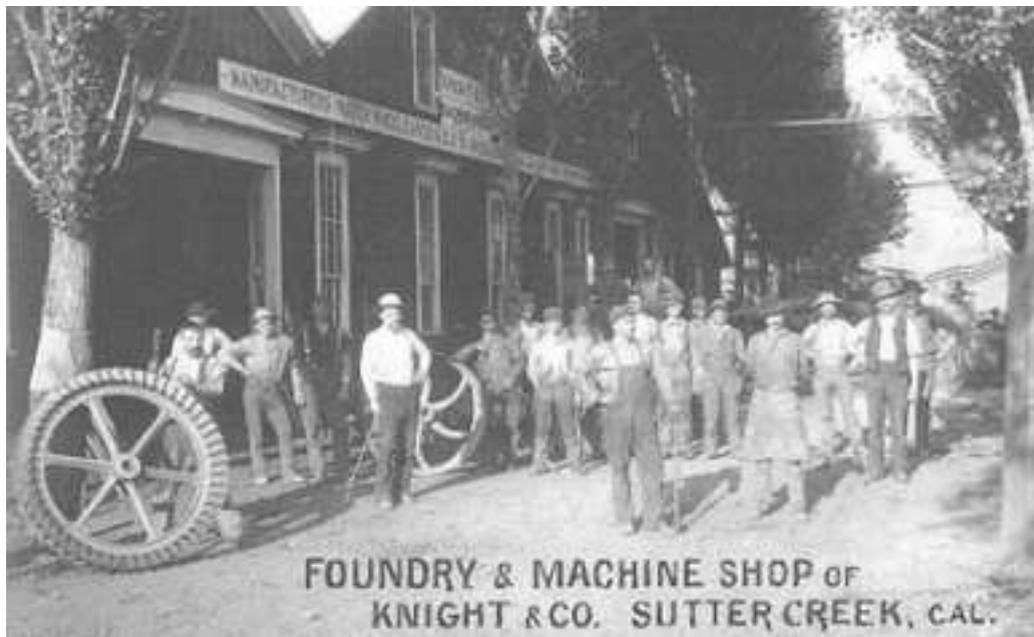
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## The Knight Foundry, cont. from page 9

seeking the support of CCHE to help purchase the foundry.

### Enduring craftsmanship

Before his death, Samuel Knight, by willing his foundry to his employees, began a practice of blue-collar inheritance that has lasted for generations. Reopening the Knight Foundry will be a challenge left for volunteers, including Knight Foundry Corporation Project Director Andy Fahrenwald who leads the preservation charge, and Knight Foundry Facility Manager Russ Johnson, an ironmaster who learned his craft from workers who had manned the foundry for half a century.



Samuel Knight (with cane) and his skilled workers, ca. 1885.  
[Photo courtesy Amador County Archive]

The last pour for the Knight Foundry occurred in 1996 when the foundry had a contract with the City of San Leandro to forge vintage street lamp posts. Since that time, the foundry has sat silent. But preservation leaders, like Russ Johnson, with the support of the CCHE, are devoted to making it hum in California's Gold Country once again.

For more information about the Knight Foundry, please write to Knight Foundry Corporation Project Director Andy Fahrenwald at P.O. Box 1776, Sutter Creek, California 95685.

For more information about the California Cultural and Historical Endowment, please contact Executive Officer Diane Matsuda at (916) 651-8768 or email at [dmatsuda@library.ca.gov](mailto:dmatsuda@library.ca.gov).



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## California Library Awards, cont. from page 10

### PLA Grow Your Own @ Your Library Institutional Scholarship Winner is Kern County Library

The Public Library Association (PLA) awarded the [Kern County Library](#) an \$8,000 grant as part of PLA's highly competitive "[Grow Your Own @ Your Library](#)" [Institutional Scholarship](#), a pilot program which addresses the education needs of public library staff working toward a Master's degree in library and information science.

Kern County Library was one of eight libraries nationwide to receive the tuition assistance for staff members' graduate studies in library science. The award also funds staff members' attendance at a PLA Conference. Winning libraries may distribute funds to more than one staff member.

The PLA awarded one library from each of its Public Library Data Service (PLDS) population categories. Kern County Library won for the 500,000-999,999 service population category.

### Kern County "fortunate" to grow librarians at home



Kern County "Grow Your Own" recipient, Jennifer Price, Library Associate, part-time and Branch Supervisor at Kern County's Wasco Branch helps Kern County customer Sandy Nozick at the Beale Memorial Library in Bakersfield. [Photo courtesy Kern County Library]



Kern County "Grow Your Own" recipient, Marcus Clough, Library Associate in Young Adult Services at Kern County's Southwest Branch with Katherine Ross, Reference Librarian I for Kern County Library. [Photo courtesy Kern County Library]

Diane Duquette, Director of Libraries, Kern County Library says of the PLA award, "Ironically, winning a PLA grant for growing our own professional librarians in Kern County is much akin to growing our own fruits and vegetables where most of our staff resides and work; it's best to draw sustenance from your immediate surroundings!"

Duquette goes on to say, "While much of the world depends on imports from our county, one of the largest exporters of agricultural products in the world, and one where

the largest organic farm resides, we are indeed fortunate to receive a "Grow Your Own @ Your Library" Institutional Scholarship award to help our own paraprofessional staff in



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## California Library Awards, cont. from page 22

the ranks and file continue to 'grow' to become library leaders of the future as they work towards their ultimate goal of obtaining their master's degree in library and information science. On their behalf, I am ecstatic to receive this enabling grant and to forward our appreciation to PLA for this highly competitive nationwide award."

Sherry Gomez, Deputy Director of Libraries for Kern County, says "It's great that through the generous PLA award we can support our talented staff in their efforts to become tomorrow's librarians. We are honored to have been selected in this population category out of all the applicants nationwide."

Gomez reports the Kern County district includes 24 branches, 2 bookmobiles and the main Beale Memorial Library in Bakersfield. "We currently have one staff person pursuing his MLIS online through San Jose State University, and he has been in the [Urban Libraries Council Scholars](#) program for which funding wraps-up this summer. Now, he will continue to receive money through 'Grow Your Own @ Your Library.' We have 3-4 other staff in the process of applying to online library schools so we anticipate 4-5 staff will be doing graduate work, a wonderful accomplishment," Gomez says.

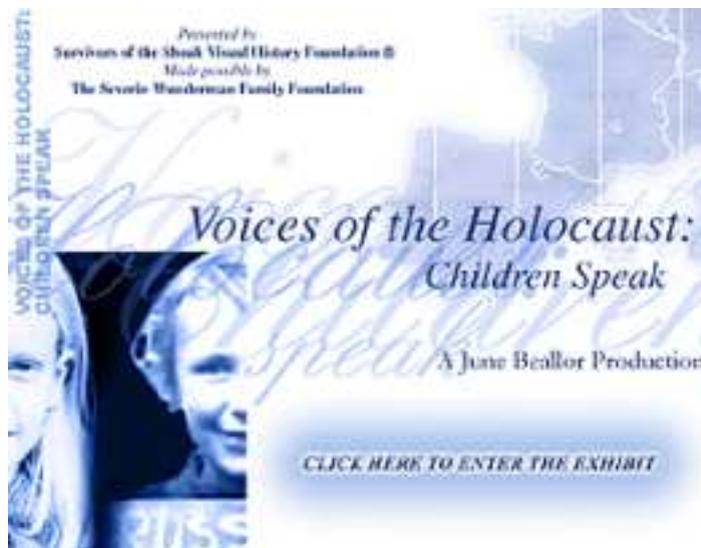
For more information about the "Grow Your Own @ Your Library" Institutional Scholarship please visit <http://www.ala.org/ala/pla/plaawards/growyourown.cfm>. PLA is a division of the American Library Association.

## USC Shoah Foundation Institute, cont. from page 12

testimonies in 56 countries and in 32 languages. In 2000, after recording approximately 50,000 survivors, the videographers ceased their work and the Foundation team embarked on the huge task of archiving, indexing, cataloging, and digitizing the invaluable tapes.

To help users access this rich and priceless archive, in 2000/2001 the California State Library began a series of 5 annual LSTA grants to USC for work with the Shoah Foundation. Those 5 grants, which totaled \$865,458, supported the cataloging and digitizing of California Holocaust survivor testimonies and the eventual delivery of the collection to schools, libraries and other centers of learning via high-bandwidth media such as Internet2.

For more information about the Shoah Foundation Institute's online resources, please contact USC Shoah Foundation Institute Marketing and Distribution Specialist Sonya Sharp at [sonyas@usc.edu](mailto:sonyas@usc.edu).



USC Shoah Foundation Institute Children Speak online exhibit [Photo courtesy USC Shoah Foundation Institute]



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## Field Feedback

### The California State Library hears from you!

#### Internet Legal Research Weekly cites California State Library website's "terrific online resources"

From the March 30, 2008 issue [#293] of *Internet Legal Research Weekly*:

*State libraries are increasingly developing terrific online resources, and the [California State Library site](#) is no exception. Although of course you'll find more at the physical library itself, the online version provides a whole lotta stuff. You have access to all of the library's catalogs, so that you can find books, legal materials, documents, maps, videos, and more. There's a picture catalog featuring selected images from the library's collections, and a good set of online resources. You can also subscribe to one of 5 RSS feeds, to keep up with the latest developments.*

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#### Aldrich's Santiago workshop deemed "excellent"

##### To Stacey Aldrich, Deputy State Librarian:

Thank you so much for your excellent presentation at the Santiago Library System's Reference Committee workshop. You were, indeed, the perfect speaker for "Future Trends in Reference." Your talk was informative and inspiring. We could have listened to you for much longer! Many of us, including me, will be checking out your blog to find the information you referenced. I know that putting together a presentation of this quality takes a lot of time and dedication, and it was clear that you worked hard for us. You have motivated us to take the next steps into the future.

*Melinda Steep  
Acting Library Director  
Yorba Linda Public Library*

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#### Yolo County Youth Services library specialist grateful for ELF information

I would like to take this opportunity to thank Suzanne Flint and Judy Klikun who spoke at the MVLS meeting informing us about the ELF grant.

Applying for the grant was a learning experience. Attending the training in Pasadena was wonderful. I had never attended such an event. It was exciting meeting others from all over the state that were interested about our children, reading and outreach to our communities.

You have opened doors only dreamed of by granting us the \$5000. We are implementing our plan, and our goal is within reach.

Thank you for the funding and having the confidence that we can and will make a difference in our community of West Sacramento .

*Cathy Lorda  
Library Specialist, Youth Services  
Yolo County Library*

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#### Palos Verdes Library District Director applauds CSL publication

In a prior life I was responsible for a large pension fund, so I had more exposure than I would have liked to actuarial analysis and the complexities of pension funding. Now I am responsible for managing total employment costs for our special library district, so the issue is still of concern.



## Field Feedback, cont. from page 24

*Actuarially Speaking: A Plain Language Summary of Actuarial Methods and Practices for Public Employee Pension and Other Post-Employment Benefits* is one of the clearest explanations I have seen of how pension liabilities are calculated and of the room for variability in the outcomes.

Congratulations to author Grant Boyken and the others who contributed on producing this document.

*Kathy Gould  
Director  
Palos Verdes Library District*

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## Gates Foundation leader applauds ARSL progress

Congratulations on the progress [[the Association for Rural and Small Libraries](#)] has made in a short amount of time. The foundation was pleased to have WebJunction use their residual Rural Sustainability grant funds to ARSL to build your capacity as an organization.

The Foundation would also like to express its appreciation to BCR for serving as ARSL's fiscal agent. Thanks again for taking time to provide the update on your work and all the best in planning for your conference – it's great to see this gathering happening on the west coast!

*Jill Nishi  
Deputy Director  
U.S. Libraries Program  
Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation*

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## Thank you to CSL Librarian

I am a clerical assistant at the Habeas Corpus Resource Center, a California state agency that represents death row inmates in their post-conviction proceedings. Recently, I was in charge of a major research project pertaining to one of our cases. David Cismowski, a senior librarian in the Government Publications Section at the California State Library, was extremely helpful to our team and could not have been more courteous and responsive to my many questions. He was diligent in following up and provided me with frequent progress reports. He emailed me PDF versions of many of the articles we needed, which was very convenient, considering our office is in San Francisco.

Additionally, in the two or so cases when an item was not available at the California State Library, Mr. Cismowski was thorough in explaining which library might have the item.

Mr. Cismowski blew me away with his high level of professionalism and helpfulness. Without him and the California State Library as a resource, I'm sure we'd still be desperately searching around for our materials. In fact, I have emailed his contact information to the staff as research projects pop up quite often in the course of our work.

Thank you to the California State Library, and thank you to Mr. Cismowski!

*Zoe Overbeck  
Habeas Corpus Resource Center  
San Francisco*



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## Field Feedback, cont. from page 25

### Praise for *Transforming Life after 50 Institute*

I wanted to thank the California State Library for the opportunity to participate in the *Transforming Life after 50 Institute* in December.

The presenters were very inspiring and energizing. Both Stephanie and I are very excited about opportunities to further engage our "50+s." I also wanted to say that Suzanne Flint's graciousness is so appreciated and set the tone for the session.

This was an exceptional event!

*Valerie Maginnis  
Mission Viejo Library*

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Thanks to the California State Library for the fabulous *Transforming Life after 50 Institute*. It was eye-opening, and rusty wheels in my hair started turning again. I am sure you will see many fabulous library programs emerge from this opportunity.

*Hillary Theyer  
Torrance Public Library*

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Many thanks for including us in the *Transforming Life after 50 Institute*. We greatly enjoyed the opportunity to hear the experts speak about how libraries can effectively serve the diverse clientele.

It was a pleasure to connect with so many dedicated and energetic public librarians. We're so pleased that the California State Library will be providing them the tools they will need to create successful programs. We'll be watching as your project unfolds; if there is anything these two Oregonians can do you for you, please let us know!

Congratulations on a very successful conference!

*Abigail Elder and Jane Salisbury  
Multnomah County Library  
Portland, Oregon*

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