

NEWPORT BEACH PUBLIC LIBRARY

To: Board of Library Trustees
From: Cynthia Cowell, Library Services Director
Re: Report of Library Activities

CYNTHIA COWELL, LIBRARY SERVICES DIRECTOR

March has been the busiest month I remember in a long time, and that's really saying something, given my normal schedule coupled with the construction project. The month started by accompanying a potential donor on a tour of the construction site. A quick trip to Sacramento for a State Library event occurred on the 6th and 7th. On Sunday, the 10th, we held our first Making Memories event for children at Five Crowns restaurant. The series was completed by two more events on the 17th and 24th. The series was a huge event, and plans are in the works for other venues and subject matter. Stay tuned for details. The week of March 11th saw the entire Central Library staff involved in final preparations for our two week shutdown that commenced at close of business on the 15th. I actually spent the night at the library in order to take pictures of the construction walls being torn down. What a wonderful scene that was, and it gave me total validation that my vision was correct. It's a wonderful thing, this new addition! During the shutdown, we have seen shelving taken down to allow for new carpet installation, new carpet installed in all areas of the building, final paint applications, some furniture installations and deliveries, and carts of books everywhere because we couldn't get to a significant number of the shelves. Beginning on March 27, we saw shelving delivered that has been in storage for what seems like a very long time and that same shelving being re-installed in mostly its same places. The 29th and 30th saw a final push to get everything ready to re-open to the public on April 1.

We managed to squeeze in a full staff meeting on the 21st. All locations were closed for the morning event and re-opened at 1 p.m. During the month, I also assisted in the writing of two staff reports (thanks Jana Barbier and Leonie Mulvihill for doing the majority of the work) which were presented at the City Council meeting on the 26th. The Arts Commission presented a report on a sculpture, *Uprooted II*, that was accepted on loan from a local artist. Assisted by staff from other departments, I presented a request for City Council to pass a resolution to set up a funding source for public art.

TIM HETHERTON, LIBRARY SERVICES MGR; TECHNICAL PROCESSING COORD.

Grand Opening

The City is having a Grand Opening for the new Civic Center and Library addition on Saturday, May 4th from 10am – 1pm. There will be entertainment, food and fun. Extra staff has been scheduled to work that day in order to greet visitors and show them around the Library.

Catalog Searches

The Library's online catalog now features a "limit to available items" search function that includes items coded as "Display" status. This enables Library customers to easily locate items chosen for public display.

National Geographic Online

The Library now subscribe to *National Geographic Magazine Archive 1994-present*, *People, Animals and the World*; and *National Geographic Kids*, in addition to our existing subscription to *National Geographic Magazine Archive, 1888-1994*. Every issue of this important magazine is

now available to cardholders in high quality .pdf files scanned directly from the magazine. Also, *People, Animals and the World* and *National Geographic Kids* will be nice additions to our Children's databases.

DEBBIE WALKER, BRANCH AND YOUTH SERVICES COORDINATOR

Branches

Despite the fact that the library closure took place at Central during the last two weeks of the month, the branches definitely felt the impact. Mariners and CDM in particular saw a definite surge in visits, circulation and general library usage. A big thanks goes out to all branch staff for all of their extra hard work during this challenging time.

Themes for programs at the branches in March included *How to Train Your Dragon* at Mariners, *Very Hungry Caterpillar* at Balboa and a Spring is Sprouting Craft Club at CDM. In order to accommodate extra customers, Mariners also doubled their Tuesday and Thursday storytimes during the Central closure dates.

A new counter top was installed in the men's public restroom at Mariners during the last week of March.

Youth Services

On Tuesday, March 12, in the week prior to the closure, a *Ladybug Girl* themed program was held at Central. Participants enjoyed stories and crafts built around this popular series.

Exciting for all staff was the fact that the construction wall that had been in Children's for over two years was taken down and shelving that had been in storage was re-installed. Although part-time staff was deployed to the branches to assist with coverage, full-time staff worked on the new room arrangement and with the various collections making sure they were weeded, rearranged and ready for placement in their new home. The puzzle table that had long been a fixture in the room was taken to Balboa. The expansion area at Central will have many tables and open areas available for the use of puzzles and other games when it opens in April or May.

Teen Services

YAAC did meet prior to the closure and discussed SRP events and prizes. There was also an SAT/ACT results program held for teen students.

MELISSA KELLY, SUPPORT SERVICES COORDINATOR

Construction

March was filled with moving shelves, shifting collections and tearing down walls. We had to have several stacks of shelving removed on the first and second floor in order to have the construction wall pulled down and have the carpet finished in the transition area between the existing library and the expansion. Staff spent Friday, March 15th taking books, magazines and audio books off the shelves. We rented 30 large wooden book trucks to house these items until the work was completed. That night, C.W. Driver had crews come in and begin to remove the temporary walls. On March 16th the shelving contractor came in and started to remove shelving that would be relocated or in some cases rebuilt in its current location. That work took all day Saturday. Once the shelving was down, the contractors finished removing the temporary walls and they started evening out floors and laying carpet, replacing ceiling tiles, installing new fire alarms and a myriad of other jobs. The building looked like a disaster zone for two weeks. On March 27th the shelving contractors came back and started to reinstall shelves. As the shelves went up, staff started to fill them right away. It was amazing how fast our people worked. When we opened the doors to the public on April 1st the building looked pretty good. We still had temporary walls, but they were shorter than before and people could see that there was

progress happening behind them. We also had more of our original shelves up and usable. March was the really the time when we could see that there was a light at the end of the tunnel.

RFID Project

The self checkout machines arrived at the Library and Bibliotheca, the RFID vendor, scheduled the installation of our self checkout machines and the security gates for the second week of April. This was to allow the contractor enough time to complete the wiring and cabling for the gates.

Literacy

Literacy received a check for \$2,500 from the State of California to purchase materials for the program. This was unexpected and very gratefully received. Much of the funding will be used to purchase workbooks that are very helpful during the one-on-one tutoring sessions.

NATALIE BASMACIYAN, ADULT SERVICES COORDINATOR

Manuscripts Book Discussion

Stephanie Kallos' "Broken for you" was subject of this month's book discussion. It is the story of seventy-five-year-old Margaret Hughes, who lives alone in a mansion filled with valuable antiques, intrusive memories of her dead mother and young son, and a newly diagnosed brain tumor. Determined to change her staid, lonely life, she places an ad soliciting boarders and attracts Wanda Schultz, a young theatrical stage manager who has come to Seattle on a desperate mission to find the oafish boyfriend who left her. Both women have broken hearts, spirits, and bodies, but this is ultimately a work of repair and redemption. Forty-two people attended the book discussion, sponsored by the NBPL Foundation, which was free and open to the public.

Central Library Closure

The Reference staff completed several projects during the Central library closure. Books on CD have been relocated and expanded in the Popular Library area. On the second floor, the Local History project has been displayed in a prominent area behind the Reference desk to generate interest. Several book collections that had been placed on carts to facilitate the laying of new carpet were reshelved prior to reopening on April 1st. Reference, and other staff members, provided modified customer service during the closure by retrieving customer holds, supplying tax paperwork, accepting Friends' Bookstore donations, answering telephone reference inquiries, accepting fines and directing customers to the branches for services.

Local History Project

Aside from creating the 2nd floor display, the assigned staff will be meeting with Councilwoman Gardner to collect her stories and photos from her teenage years in Newport Beach. Other members of the community have supplied photos as well. The project has been featured in local media to garner interest.

STATISTICS – MARCH

	CIRCULATION		REFERENCE		CUSTOMERS SERVED IN LIBRARY		PROGRAM ATTENDANCE	
	MAR 2013	YTD 12/13	MAR 2013	YTD 12/13	MAR 2013	YTD 12/13	MAR 2013	YTD 12/13
BALBOA	9,817	83,609	796	6,592	5,930	48,800	259	2,166
CdM	8,763	66,882	1,400	7,538	6,597	45,083	861	6,072
MARINERS	40,688	329,752	5,781	45,260	27,208	215,667	760	6,878
CENTRAL	55,680	696,825	4,784	73,496	34,106	493,852	1,441	21,396
TOTAL	114,948	1,177,068	12,761	132,886	73,841	803,402	3,321	36,512
<i>LAST FISCAL YEAR-TO-DATE 2011/12</i>								
Total YTD 2011/12		1,179,100		143,260		857,982		34,903
NOTE: The Central Library was closed for construction from March 16 through March 31.								

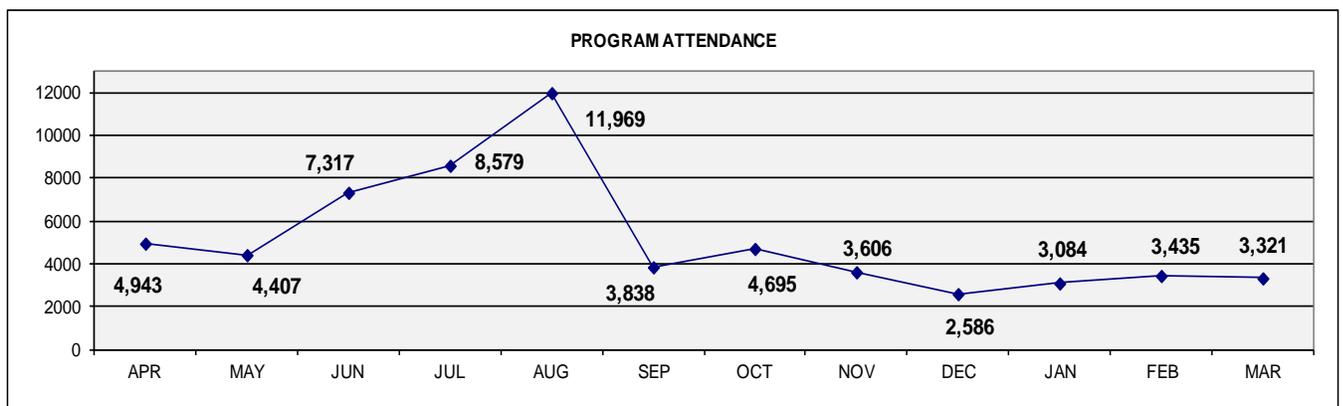
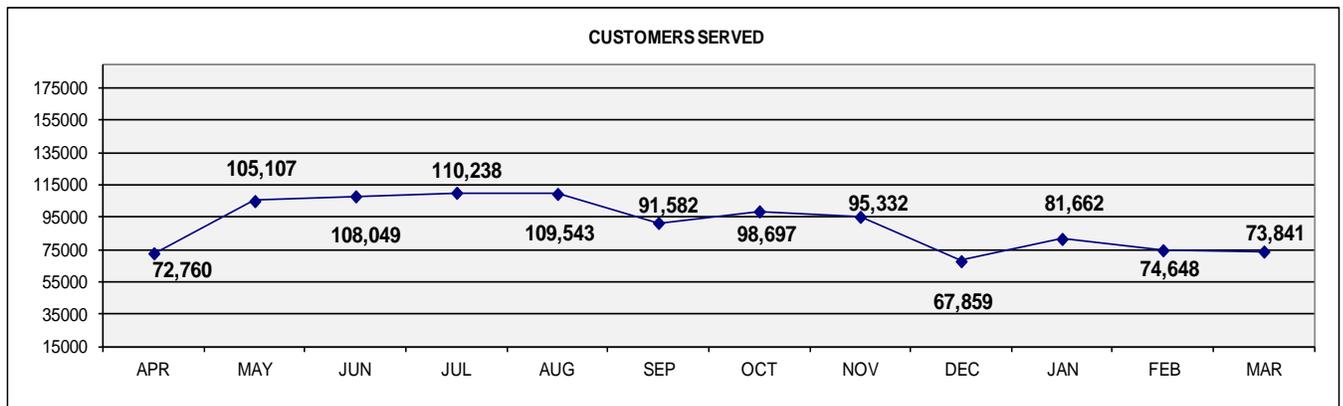
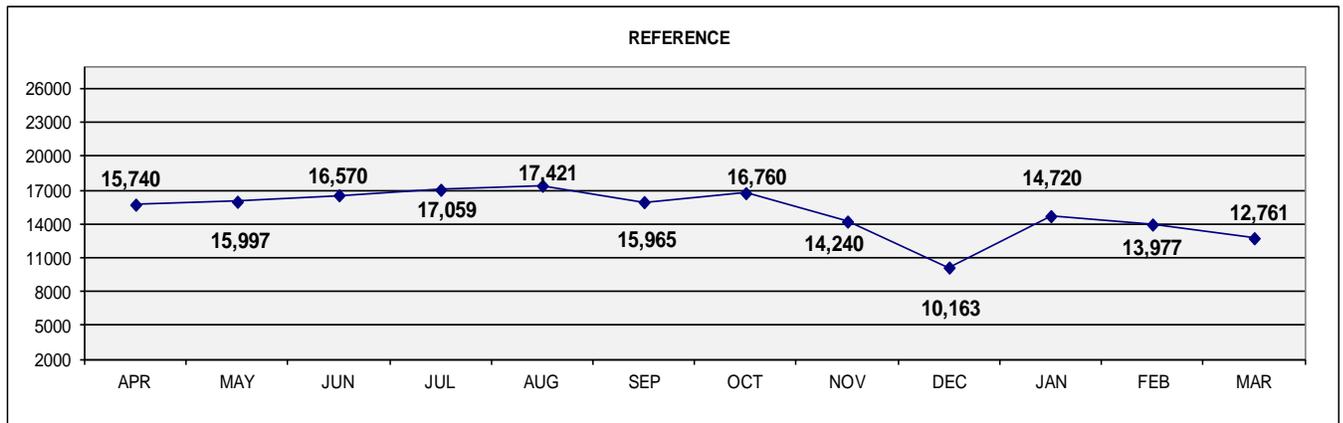
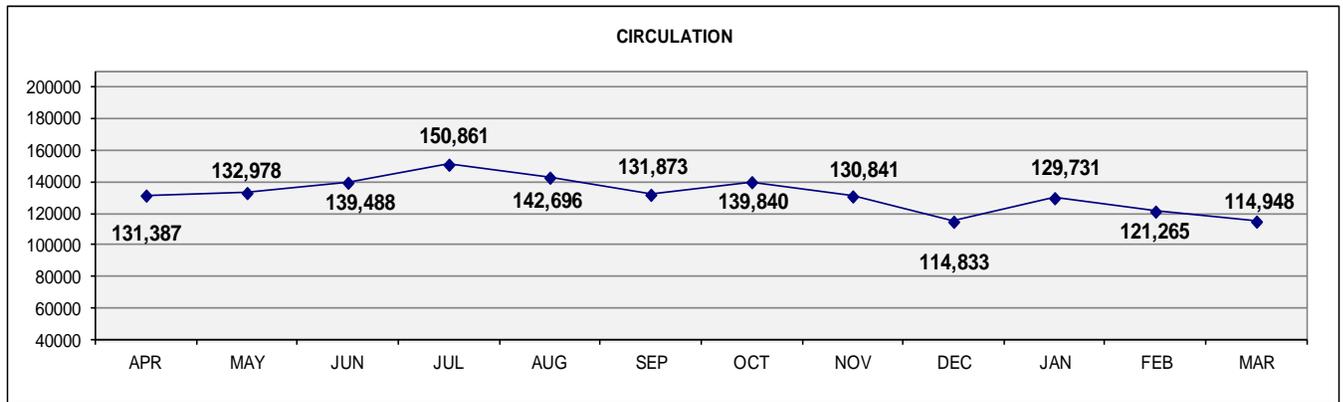
Proquest Articles Retrieved

	July	Aug	Sept	Oct	Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	March	AVG.
Business Databases	354	560	485	657	1446	342	1749	639	1255	832
Newspapers--Current	1759	896	1166	1277	1351	1230	1089	994	1086	1205
Newspapers--Historical	5511	4922	7748	9000	7580	9217	6390	6410	2624	6600
Magazines	51	36	85	75	529	84	50	76	1086	230

DATABASE STATS – FY 2012 / 2013

Database	Mar-13	Mar-12	Mar-11	YTD 12/13	YTD 11/12	YTD 10/11
Tracked by #searches						
Ancestry	1947	1438	622	13023	7466	3879
Career Transitions	N/A	15	67	58	168	873
BioResCtr*	170	49	515	1065	921	1477
FoF Ancient Hist	7	37	71	513	237	291
GDL	13	7	N/A	193	122	N/A
GVRL	161	76	425	815	1826	688
HeritageQuest	208	325	264	1792	2560	2276
Kids InfoBits	25	17	61	184	87	175
LitResCtr	285	166	5528	997	850	6637
Opposing Vpts*	150	80	1226	2158	426	2868
Nat Geo				199	N/A	N/A
Novelist	169	190	434	1752	1522	1859
Novelist K-8	25	43	146	436	527	537
ProQuest	3143	5579	6346	39071	26434	34206
Ref USA Bus.	5627	8184	5757	43707	33524	44320
Ref USA Res.*	129	376	837	1849	8017	20606
World Book Online	102	156	379	668	786	983
Tracked by #books viewed/checked out						
Overdrive	7892	2885	1146	43659	15134	7923
Tumblebooks	924	449	1710	7803	6034	8837
Tracked by #sessions						
Cypress Resume	15	18	19	160	98	19
LiveHomework	53	270	202	638	1487	920
Testing & EdRefCtr	25	30	71	303	404	422
Universal Class	64	59	41	904	496	63
Tracked by #page views						
CultureGrams	58	427	1545	1591	1373	2639
Morningstar	20946	2168	2098	58610	17419	18444
NetAdvantage	1814	1528	675	21992	4313	4745
RealQuest	63	2587	863	12482	5221	1662
Rocket Languages	54	78	54	435	605	345
Value Line	22994	19,058	7861	191770	78239	33222

MONTHLY LIBRARY SYSTEM STATISTICS



ANNUAL LIBRARY SYSTEM STATISTICS - FY 2002/2003 thru FY 2011/2012

