



October 2016
Commission Report
Nancy Howe, County Librarian

Upcoming JPA and Finance Committee Meetings

SCCLD's Joint Authorities Board (JPA) will meet on Thursday, October 27, at 1:30 p.m. at the Services and Support Center, 1370 Dell Avenue, Campbell. The agenda will include election of 2017 officers, presentation of the 2015-2016 financial and services reports, executive summary of the customer satisfaction survey, consideration of the transfer of the Whipple Fund to the Los Altos Library Endowment and the recommendation from the funding formula review committee. The full agenda will be posted in advance of the meeting at each library location and on our website. The Finance Committee will meet on Tuesday, October 11, at 3:00 p.m. also at the Services and Support Center. Both meetings are open to the public.

Milpitas City Council and North County Library Authority decide to fund additional library hours

The Milpitas City Council voted unanimously to fund both restored library hours that were cut in 2012 and also increase to 71 hours per week. When presented with the results of a survey of Milpitas library patrons indicating which additional open hours they would prefer, the Council responded to bring the hours up to the highest level of any SCCLD. The North County Library Authority also voted unanimously to add 5 additional hours per week to the Los Altos Library schedule bringing them to 71 hours per week also. Staff is working on the plans to implement the new hours. We are thrilled by the strong show of support for library access in our communities.

Staff Development Day: All libraries closed on October 14

Every two years the Library District invites all of our 400 staff to gather and focus on customer service, new trends, and communication. This year the Library will hold Staff Development Day on Friday, October 14, 2016. All District libraries will be closed on this day. As one of the highest rated libraries in the nation and at a time of great change within the library field, we are committed to continuous professional development of our talented and committed staff. We need to stay aware of national trends, reports, and skills. While we send staff to classes, workshops, and conferences each year, Staff Development Day allows all of our colleagues to collectively learn together and build our team.

SCCLD awarded Touchpoints Training grant

SCCLD has been selected for an exciting training through the California State Library, *Touchpoints in Libraries*, developed by the renowned pediatrician T. Berry Brazelton's Touchpoints Center in Boston's Children's Hospital and librarians from all parts of California. The *Touchpoints in Libraries* training provides a map for library staff to understand children's behavioral and emotional development, as well as identify opportunities and strategies to connect with and support families through routine library interactions, programs and services.

The *Touchpoints in Libraries* training - funded through the State Library - is a three-day program in April 2017 offered for 26 library staff members, and valued at \$31,000. The specific Touchpoints principles and assumptions taught allow library staff to create meaningful connections with families, maximize the effectiveness of their library interactions, and build a strong community of library patrons and partners. SCCLD was one of nine libraries awarded this grant from among 51 applicants.

Santa Clara County Library District libraries play a key role in the community as providers and supporters of early learning. Our system, which focuses on helping young children thrive and be ready to learn is supported by the Every Child Ready to Read campaign integrated into numerous story times, classes, a 1000 Books before 6 program, and our strong collection for both children and the adults in their lives.

Milpitas Library Pilots Charging Stations



Library users now have another reason to spend more time at their library. Milpitas Library is piloting a new service: Charging Stations. Six Charging Stations were installed in September. If a patron's mobile phone, tablet, or other device's battery runs low, they can use a Charging Station's cables, USB ports, or power outlets to charge it. This helps the patron enjoy their library visit longer. Charging cables are compatible with Apple, Android, and other companies' mobile devices. The community's response to the service will

shape next steps for the project, including future enhancements and expanded locations for the stations.

Steve Fitzgerald recognized as Employee of Excellence by Santa Clara County

On Monday, August 15, Milpitas Library's Community Librarian, Stephen Fitzgerald, was recognized with an Employee Excellence Award by the Santa Clara County Board of Supervisors and County Executive, Jeff Smith.



Pictured: library colleagues and family with Steve. Congratulations, Steve!