Contra Costa County Library provides exceptional value to our communities, as evidenced in performance indicators tracked by the California State Library. Based on preliminary data for the 2008-2009 fiscal year, Contra Costa County Library serves 5,232 people annually for each full time equivalent (FTE) employee. Based on data from the consulting firm Library Research Service, for every dollar invested in CCCL, the public sees a return of $5.98.

The Contra Costa County Library has more volunteers working more hours than any other library in the Bay Area. In 2009, 1,250 individuals volunteered 42,865 hours! Based on the Independent Sector’s estimate for the value of volunteer time, the dollar value of hours volunteered in 2009 is $868,016.

Innovation

Contra Costa County Library is recognized nationally as a leader in utilizing technology to improve service, build community partnerships, and reduce costs. Recently, the California State Library awarded the library a grant to provide partial funding for the country’s first automated book dispensing machines, branded Library-a-Go-Go, to expand library service to reach new communities.

In December of 2009, the Contra Costa County Library was a recipient of a Bay Area Library and Information System (BALIS) Innovation grant in the amount of $60,000 to create a Mobile Patron Support System that will quickly link customers with cell phones to library materials, account information and enhanced content. This cutting-edge project called “Snap & Go” will utilize Quick Response barcodes to encode information and automatically lead customers to web-accessible features once a photo of the barcode is taken with a cell phone.

Award-winning Ideas:

- 2009 Cutting Edge Technology Service award for Library-a-Go-Go by the American Library Association
- 2009 Challenge Merit Award from California State Association of Counties
- Snap and Go mobile technology project receives $60,000 Innovation grant from BALIS
- Annual countywide Reading Festival funded by Target with $80,000 over 3-years
- 3-year $118,000 federal grant from the Institute of Museum and Library Services to provide library programs at the Juvenile Hall and Orin Allen Youth Rehabilitation Facility
Increased Demand for Library Service

- 271,300 items were borrowed in 2008/2009 (a 12% increase from the previous year)
- 282,607 visitors to the library in 2008/2009 (a 7% increase from the previous year)
- Monthly circulation has dropped since the library’s reduction in open hours (from 52 to 35 hours a week on November 19, 2009)

Resource for the Entire Community

- Offers educational and enriching programs for all age groups (kids, tweens, teens, and adults) 6,823 people attended 272 library programs in 2008/2009
- Presents weekly story times to build children’s early literacy skills
- Serves as one of two sites in the county for the Library’s Adult Literacy Program
- Provides a safe environment where local tutors can work with students to increase academic achievement
- Provides meeting space for local community groups
- Offers biweekly library programs known as the “Wednesday Club” for ARC Inroads (group of 20-28 adults with disabilities) In addition to the programs, the group uses the library at least twice a week for reading and computer access

Community Partnerships

Opportunity Junction (job training and placement center)
Offers informational classes on library resources and employment opportunities

Deer Valley High School
Delivers library materials to the school three times a week

City of Antioch’s Environmental Resource Center
Plans programs at the library and provides resources to help citizens reduce, reuse and recycle

ARC Inroads enjoying a “Wednesday Club” program

Participant shares his work created at a tween art program
The Bay Point Library has had a dynamic history from its beginnings in a hospital room of the Bay Point Lumber Company in 1914. In 1994, after residents in the community expressed a desire for a library, Contra Costa County Library and MDUSD joined forces to provide library services to the residents of Bay Point at its current location in the Riverview Middle School.

We continue to meet community needs by:

- partnering with various organizations to provide programs
- expanding our adult, young adult, juvenile and Spanish materials collections,
- providing access to public computers
- and a regular Homework Help Center.

Impressive data and statistics

After School Homework help program serves an average of 40 students a month

10,425 items are available in Bay Point for public access.

22,184 items borrowed last fiscal year, 10% increase.

13% increase in volunteer hours in 2009.

Circulation continues to increase! The library has recorded a 6% increase in items borrowed since reduced hours began in July 2009!
Brentwood’s NEW Library - providing valuable resources where they are needed most

The Brentwood Library opened at our new larger City remodeled facility on June 22, 2009

A vital community space for Teens
Expanded area to accommodate more teens
A comfortable study space for homework
New displays to showcase library material for teens

Increased access to technology
Additional seating for laptop users with access to power outlets
6 additional computers; greater access to the Internet

Recent Popular Reading & Literacy Events
Dia de Los Ninos, Dia de Los Libros, Child’s Day, Book Day
Local Author Program
7th Annual Brentwood CityRead
Winter Reading Program, K-12

Items borrowed have soared in our new library

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QUICK FACTS

- **12,276**
  Number of library visitors each month

- **5,699**
  Number of people who attended library programs in 2009

- **23,272**
  Number of library card holders in Brentwood

- **1,706**
  Number of hours volunteered in 2009
Recent Highlights

Awarded a $3,000 grant to purchase large print books by Clayton Business and Community Association

Presented the 1st annual community wide reading event “Clayton Reads” featuring “When the Emperor Was Divine”, 413 attended related programs

The 6th annual “Creekside Arts Festival”, a celebration of the library’s birthday, featured local artists and performers

The Larwood Family, named Clayton Library Volunteers of the Year, was featured on California Libraries Volunteer Match web site

Quick Facts

140,063 people visited the library; 8.9% increase from last year

215,117 items were borrowed; 4.2% increase from last year

4,331 attended 113 free programs; 24.6% increase from last year

71 volunteers donated 7,153 hours in 2009

9,416 library card holders (pop. 10,784)
Community Engagement & Partnerships

Highlights

900 residents received free tax assistance thanks to a partnership with AARP

Concord teens tutor adults on basic computer skills

Free bilingual computer and resume classes offered by the library at the Monument Crisis Center and Mi Officia

Parenting workshops offered in conjunction with Mt. Diablo Adult Education and Nuestros Niños Radio Show

Programs offered for families facing foreclosure and financial crisis

50 residents received assistance at the monthly Small Claims Advisor Workshop conducted by the Contra Costa County Superior Court

2009 Quick Facts

4,594 visitors each week

7,963 families and children attended programs

61,359 Concord residents have a library card

339,671 books, DVD’s, videos, and magazines checked out

Coming Soon!

Family Place – A special project to help parents and children explore early literacy

Thanks to our community partners for their generous support of our library: AARP, Contra Costa County Superior Court, Friends of the Concord Library, Monument Crisis Center, Mi Officia, Mt. Diablo Adult Education, Nuestros Niños Radio Show, and many Concord businesses.
Community Partnerships
In 2009 the Crockett Community Foundation contributed substantially to the Crockett Library:
■ $20,000 to extend the Library hours from 18 to 24 per week
■ $20,000 towards the beautification, which included new floors and paint
■ $1,500 for children’s books

A Resource for the Entire Community
The Crockett Library offers programs to appeal to community members of all ages:
■ Preschool storytimes teach early literacy skills and help instill a love of reading in our neighborhood children
■ A teen poetry contest inspired local high school students to create their own literary works
■ Two active book clubs for adults meet monthly to discuss literature and mystery fiction
■ All ages can enjoy the regular cultural programming sponsored by the Friends of the Crockett Library

Quick Facts
1,514 active members (47% of the population)
1,139 visitors each month
8,719 items checked out in 2008-09
1,163 people attended library programs in 2009

The beautification of the Crockett Library brought out its lovely arts and crafts features.
2009 Highlights

Stories-to-Go Preschool Program
Recipient of $2,600 Target Store Grant to expand Danville Library’s Preschool Stories-to-Go literacy program with visits to over 2,290 local students

National Lincoln Bicentennial Celebration
Selected as one of only forty locations across the country to host Abraham Lincoln Bicentennial exhibit and events in partnership with the Museum of San Ramon Valley and the San Ramon Valley Unified School District

Danville-San Ramon Community Reads
Celebrated sixth anniversary of annual Danville-San Ramon “Two Cities, One Tale” community-wide reading program with a closing event attracting 600 people

Danville-San Ramon KidsReads
Successfully hosted third annual Danville-San Ramon KidsReads event with over 2,000 participating students throughout the San Ramon Valley in partnership with local schools

Paws-to-Read
Collaborated with the Valley Humane Society for Danville Library’s first Paws-to-Read literacy program for readers in grades 1-5 as recent studies show reading to dogs help elementary students improve reading skills

Computer Docent Program
Provided over 140 hours of one-on-one computer instruction by trained volunteer to assist individuals in improving job skills and computer competency

New Language Collections
Developed Chinese language book collection in addition to growing Spanish language books based on increasing demand and community feedback

Quick Facts

Annual Circulation: 412,759, 20% increase

Library Visits: 14.23% Increase

Library Card Holders in Danville Community: 34,173 (Population 43,250)

Total Items in the Collection: 87,249

Total Volunteer Hours in 2009: 2,368

Community Engagement & Partnerships

Danville Kids Book Club: discussion, crafts, and fun

Paws-to-Read takes Danville readers by storm

Daily Library Visits - FY 07-08 and 08-09

Avg. Hourly Visits

0 20 40 60 80 100 120

Mon Tue Wed Thu Fri Sat Sun

FY 07-08

FY 08-09
There is not such a cradle of democracy upon the earth as the Free Public Library, this republic of letters, where neither rank, office, nor wealth receives the slightest consideration.

-Andrew Carnegie
A vital community resource:

In the past year:

The library had 11,529 active members (48% of El Cerrito residents)

Nearly 200,000 books, magazines, CDs and videos were borrowed

Community members supported the library with 665 volunteer hours

The El Cerrito Library was busier than ever before: 121,928 people visited the library, a 19% percent increase from just five years ago

El Cerrito launched the innovative Library-a-Go-Go book lending machine at the del Norte BART station, making books more widely available to local residents as well as commuters

A place for Learning:

Three story time sessions each week teach early literacy skills and help instill a love of reading in our neighborhood children

Two active book clubs for adults meet monthly to discuss the latest novels as well as classic works of literature

Monthly teen meetings provide friendship opportunities along with workshops on college preparation and SAT exam practice

Older adults improve their information literacy skills with our free Internet classes and computer docent services

Local authors share ideas in monthly lecture/readings on a wide variety of topics including art, music, health, job-hunting, entrepreneurship, and literature
Reaching Out to Our Community:

Dedicated the recently completed Children’s Reading Garden on February 27, 2010

Created a job search center to support job seekers and local ROP office

Presented a series of adult job search/support programs

Increased assistance to new computer learners with technology resources

Paired adult & children’s library events to enable all family members to attend programs

Expanded number of class visits to elementary, middle & high schools

Participated in job training for developmentally disabled adults

2009 At a Glance:

- 12,544 library card holders (population 13,000+)
- 6,860 visitors each month
- 1,248 hours donated by 51 youth, teen and adult volunteers
- 3,387 children, teens and adults attended 156 library programs
- Circulated 94,714 library materials

Annual Circulation 2005 - 2009
Since opening day in November 2006, Hercules residents have borrowed a total of 681,626 books and audio-visual items and counting. That’s an average of 20,000 items each month!

The Hercules Library has a total of 13,447 active members, which equals 55 percent of the City’s population! These members use the library 2,669 times each week and donate 3,415 volunteer hours each year.

The Hercules Library, an award winning, state-of-the-art facility at the heart of the Hercules community, is a successful partnership between the City of Hercules and Contra Costa County Library. Other community collaborations include:

- Homework Help provided by the Hercules High School KIWIN’S
- Children’s Garden renovations by the Hercules Community Garden Foundation
- Hercules Teen Youth Council serve as Teen Library advisors
- City Risk Management and US Census Bureau provide space for census workers to do community outreach
- Job training for developmentally disabled students

Hercules residents love their library!

**WHAT THE LIBRARY OFFERS**

64,103 number of items in the collection

50 number of computers available to the public

591 number of library events since opening day

Crowds at Yan Can Cook event

Senior Wii participants
Community Partnerships
The Friends of the Kensington Library give vital assistance to the Kensington Library. In 2009 the Friends contributed:
- Over $5,000 to pay for library programs for both children and adults
- Almost $20,000 towards books and magazine subscriptions

Popular Children’s Events
Almost 6,000 people attended children’s programs in 2009 at the Kensington Library. Children’s programming included:
- Three storytime sessions each week to teach early literacy skills and instill a love of reading in our community’s children
- Monthly special performances sponsored by the Friends
- The Summer Reading Program helped 230 children and teens retain crucial reading skills over the summer. Fifteen babies also participated!

Quick Facts
4,224 active members (86% of the population)
5,644 visitors each month
110,802 items checked out in 2008-09
6,781 people attended library programs in 2009
The NEW Lafayette Library & Learning Center Provides Valuable Resources

Glenn Seaborg Learning Consortium
First of its kind at any American public library! 795 program attendees since January 2010

Increased Access to Technology
43 public computers and 188 seats with access to wifi provide access to the Internet, databases, and software for library visitors

Basic Internet Skills Workshop
Older adults improve their information literacy skills with free Internet classes

Homework Club
35 Peer tutors from Acalanes High School and Stanley Middle School provide homework help for younger students

Popular events enjoyed by all ages

PAWS to Read
Children build reading skills by reading aloud to dogs.

Lamorinda Reads! Three Communities ~ One Book celebrated 3rd year in 2009

8,975 people attended programs for youth and teens in 2009

949 people attended programs for adults in 2009

Volunteers making a difference!

90% increase in volunteer hours and 48% increase in number of volunteers between January 2009 – 2010

Library visitors of all ages enjoy science programs, games, access to computers and an extensive collection of books and materials at the Lafayette Library and Learning Center.
Community Partnerships & Programs

Collaborated with Martinez city staff and commissioners, Friends of the Martinez Library & local residents on the 2010 library renovation plan to best serve community needs.

Provided assistance to job seekers through a series of library programs and computer competency sessions.

Provided outreach & programming with:
- Martinez Parks & Recreation
- Martinez Schools
- Martinez Senior Center
- Martinez Historical Society
- American Legion
- Martinez Kiwanis
- Martinez Rotary
- Shell Oil Company

Library at a Glance 2009:

- **22,346** library card holders (population 35,000+)
- **66,269** library visits
- **3,907** children, teens and adults attended 188 library programs
- **938** hours donated by 29 youth, teen and adult volunteers
- **39,885** total items in the collection

![Image](image_url)
A well-used community destination
In fiscal year 2008/09
■ 209,368 library items borrowed; an increase of 7% over previous year
■ 100,787 visitors; an average of 55 per hour
■ 2,964 people attended programs for children
■ 907 volunteer hours donated

Outstanding programming benefits the entire community
Early literacy and cultural activities for kids: lapsits, puppet and magic shows, music and movement workshops, weekly crafts, school field trips
Opportunities to learn and explore for adults and teens: Classical guitar concert, Mysterious California Book Discussion Series, college preparation series, monthly San Francisco Fine Arts Docent Lectures

Flourishing community partnerships
Partnered with the Animal Rescue Foundation to launch Paws to Read, an initiative that builds children’s confidence and reading skills by encouraging kids to read aloud to dogs
Cooperated with the Mt. Diablo Audubon Society to offer birding programs for children
Kiwanis Club of Moraga Valley funded the second annual Moraga Library Pizza Read-a-thon to celebrate a successful 2009 Summer Reading Program

Building improvements:
New landscaping spearheaded by Friends of the Moraga Library with the participation of the Town of Moraga and the Moraga Garden Club; funding provided by the Friends and Joan Bruzzone
Installation of new screen in the meeting room, skate board deterrents, and meeting room lighting improvements funded by the Friends and facilitated by the Town of Moraga.

Lamorinda Libraries Collaborate
2nd annual Lamorinda Reads featured activities throughout the region: a multicultural children’s fair, Persian dance lessons, foreign affairs speakers, book discussions, and an appearance by Funny in Farsi author Firoozeh Dumas

Friends of the Moraga Library and Town of Moraga collaborate on

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MORAGA LIBRARY

Author Madeline Levine lecture

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CONTRA COSTA COUNTY LIBRARY
Bringing People and Ideas Together
ccclib.org

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Birding program  Paws to Read  Chinese Lunar New Year Lion Dance
Grants & Awards
$5,000 ~ First 5 Contra Costa
Multicultural programming for children

$4,750 ~ City of Oakley Economic Development
Grant for Small Business materials

Partnerships Strengthen the Community

Early Literacy
Annual visits introduce parents to the library and the importance of literacy

Oakley Union Elementary School District
Every 2nd grader gets a library card, CCReads!

East Bay Regional Park District
Educational & Informational programs for Oakley community at the library

Freedom High School
Increased teen involvement in the library
Teen book club ~ “Word for Word” drama program

New Programs, Services and Celebrations
- Storytimes for babies and toddlers enhance early literacy
- 60% increase in family programs through First 5 grant
- Celebrated 10th anniversary in Freedom High School

A Resource for the Entire Community
- 30% increase in program attendance in 2008-09
- 17% increase in library card holders

16% increase in items borrowed from last year

Items Borrowed

2,694 people, including this young man, participated in programs for youth and teens in 2008-09

198 adults, including the Saturday Stitchers, participated in programs in 2008-09
The Orinda Library: A Community Destination

- **Best Family Friendly Library** by Diablo Magazine
- **Best Library** by the East Bay Express
- **Best Storytime** by the Lamorinda Mom’s Club
- **A Favorite Place** by users on Google

Programs, Collections & Partnerships Celebrate Reading, the Arts, and Community

- Early Literacy Storytime for the youngest Orindans & Storytelling for Kids
- Individual Computer Tutoring Sessions help people improve their information literacy
- Green Zone and Theater Book Collections bring vital information and entertainment to many
- First Annual Orinda Library Summer Music Series
- Berkeley Repertory Theater Docents present Sneak Peeks for upcoming productions
- Sculpture display: *Surveillance*, by Kent Roberts, in partnership with Art in Public Places
- Lamorinda Reads! Three Communities ~ One Book program continues to inspire readers and community discussion

**QUICK FACTS**

90.6
% of population with a Contra Costa County Library Card

9,100
Number of visitors each month

283,999
Number of items checked out in 2008-09

8,375
Number of people who attended library programs in 2009

A young Orindan plays the Cat in the Hat! 7,111 people attended programs for youth in 2009

94 children practiced reading in 2009 in our Paws to Read Literacy program

Firoozeh Dumas, best-selling author of “Funny in Farsi” signs books for attendees of Lamorinda Reads
What people are saying about the Pinole Library:

“I love my library because it provides my children with many educational programs and activities.” – Ruth

“An invaluable neighborhood resource…a safe space for education and entertainment.” – Dave

“I love the library because I can use the computer to look for jobs.” – Pinole resident

“A wonderful place to get books, meet neighbors and learn about the world.” – Victoria

“When I come to the library my imagination is filled.” – Pinole student

“The Pinole Library is a lifeline to me since I retired.” – H.T.

Quick Facts

- 46,000 items available in Pinole; access to millions of books in libraries throughout California
- 9,826 active members (52% of Pinole residents)
- Open 24 hours each week, reduced from 42 hours July 2009
- Weekly storytime for children, monthly events for families and teens
- 2,315 people attended programs for youth in 2009
- 10 public internet computers and free wireless internet for laptops
- Volunteers donate 120 hours of service each month

Kids and families learn about nature with fun wildlife programs at the library.
What’s Happening at the Library?

- A new teen space provides youth with a dedicated area to meet, network, and study.
- A new volunteer Teen Task Force creates displays and teen programs to encourage teens to actively participate in library and community activities.
- Over 50 Pittsburg families learned about the history and science of chocolate at an event sponsored by Blommer Chocolate Company in February 2010.
- Coming in May 2010: *Día de Los Niños* (Day of the Child), a celebration of children, reading, and bilingual culture hosted in partnership with the Creative Arts Building (CAB) and funded by a grant from the California State Library.

Facility improvements funded by the City of Pittsburg since July 2009:

- Painted and repaired outside lamp
- Restored *Pittsburg Library* sign at front door
- Installed ADA compliant entrance ramp
- Painted and power-washed building façade
- Remodeled staff break room
- Improved public restrooms

Did You Know?

Volunteers donated 1,460 hours of service during the last year, a 38% increase from the previous year (and we are on track to break this record in FY 2009/10!)

Over 9,000 items were borrowed each month

The Pittsburg Library houses a collection of over 46,000 books, music, magazines, movies, and more

Over 2,500 people attended library programs for all ages during FY2008/09

Borrowing decreased due to reduced hours starting July 2009

Studying, reading, crafts, & events for families. Something for everyone at the Pittsburg Library!
Strengthening the Community

With funds provided by the City of Pleasant Hill and the Pleasant Hill Friends of the Library, promoted solid waste reduction in Pleasant Hill!

- Established Green Zone collection of eco-friendly and green living books, supplemented by monthly displays and programs.

Collaborated with community members to promote local and library resources:

- Pleasant Hill YMCA
- Pleasant Hill Farmers’ Market
- Pleasant Hill Senior Summit
- Pleasant Hill Schools
- Lindsey Wildlife Museum

Green Zone display promoting battery and cell phone recycling, complete with drop-off bins!

Sharks at the Pleasant Hill Library!

Pleasant Hill Farmers’ Market Manager checks out a book at the library’s booth

Library Volunteers Give Back to Pleasant Hill

![Bar chart showing volunteer hours in 2008 and 2009]

Serving the Community of Pleasant Hill

- 7,400 weekly visitors borrow over 11,550 items
- Over 5,900 story time attendees in past year
- 900 Summer Reading Program readers
Community Partnerships
The Rodeo Municipal Advisory Council awarded the Rodeo Library $16,483 towards extending the open hours from 18 to 24.

Expanding the Library’s Impact
All first grade classes at Rodeo Hills Elementary School visited the Library and the students received their first library cards—a wonderful introduction to library service in their own neighborhood.

A Cultural Center for Our Community
The Rodeo Library presents a classic book club and classic movie club, offering community members a place to share and expand upon their understanding of literature and film.

At the 2009 Reading Festival local author Jennifer Dowling discussed her book on local history, Rodeo.

Quick Facts
3,994 active members (46% of the population)
1,363 visitors each month
11,783 items checked out in 2008-09
413 people attended library programs in 2009

Children celebrate Chinese New Year with a crafts program at the Rodeo Library.
New programs and services in 2010

- Weekly ESL conversation class
- Additional storytimes in the library and at local preschools and day care centers
- Increased seating for laptop users with access to power outlets

Grants and awards

- $5,000 from Verizon/American Library Association for teen music programs in 2010
- $500 from Philanthropic Ventures Foundation for summer reading in 2010
- $500 from the California State Library for bilingual family programs in 2010
- $300 from the County Administrator’s Office for Census promotion in 2010
- $5,000 from the San Pablo Community Foundation for children’s science programs in 2008/09

A resource for the entire community

In 2009:

- 10,000 visitors each month
- 3,046 people attended programs for youth
- 1,648 new library cards issued
- 35% increase in Sunday attendance during fall 2009 (compared to fall 2008)
2009 Highlights

Summer Reading Program
1,716 San Ramon community children and teens retained essential reading skills over the summer; highest total number of youth participants in the county

Preschool Storytime: Children gain early reading and school readiness skills at the library 130 preschool programs: 7,461 preschoolers
San Ramon Librarians distribute books and other reading incentives in the San Ramon schools 58 visits: 5,742 children reached

Preschool Storytime Feb. 2010

Cultural and Educational Events for adults, teens and families: Opportunities to gain computer/technology skills, job-search skills, and to attend programs designed to inspire reading and learning such as family storytimes, poetry reading, book discussions, author talks, as well as teen afterschool programs and teen education workshops. 127 programs: 4,946 in attendance

“Jazz at the Library” Concert Series
Sponsored by Chevron: grant $5000

“International Storytelling Festival”
Sponsored by San Ramon Library Foundation

“Two Cities, One Tale”
Danville-San Ramon Community Read

“KidsReads”
Danville-San Ramon Community Read

QUICK FACTS

6,100
Average number of San Ramon Library visitors each week

44,807
Library card holders in San Ramon community (population 51,027)

446,764
Number of Items checked out at San Ramon Library

92,817
Number of Items owned by San Ramon Library

5,541
Volunteer hours served in the San Ramon Library by 122 volunteers

Eager for science, March 2010

Libraries store the energy that fuels the imagination. They open up windows to the world and inspire us to explore and achieve, and contribute to improving our quality of life. Libraries change lives for the better.

—Author Sidney Sheldon
Popular programs offered through the Walnut Creek Library Foundation and Community Partnerships

Walnut Creek Reads, the annual city-wide reading program, had its highest participation ever in its 4th season with The Guernsey Literary and Potato Peel Pie Society. 270 people heard co-author Annie Barrows speak, and 130 enjoyed Center Repertory’s dramatic reading of selected letters from the book.

Daniel Handler, author of the Lemony Snicket books, entertained 250 fans of all ages to close the annual Contra Costa County Library Reading Festival at the Civic Park Community Center.

284 students submitted poems for the Poetry Live! 2009 Student Poetry Contest; the contest celebration at Lindsay Wildlife Museum drew over 100 people.

Mechanics Bank hosted Story Magic to introduce young children and their parents to children’s services in the new library.

Social satire cartoonists Stephan Pastis and Darrin Bell at Shadelands Art Center drew 240, including many teens.

John Muir Women’s Health Center hosted Youth Services Librarian Margaret Smith’s workshops for new parents, which help them introduce babies to words, books and reading.

Essential services provided by the Park Place Library and its volunteers

- An average of 1,500 visitors a week borrowed 136,761 items last year.
- Rossmoor residents had 4,680 books delivered to Rossmoor Gateway.
- Visitors logged over 7,000 hours of computer time and connected with the online world.

Community Support for the New Walnut Creek Library

The Walnut Creek Library Foundation has raised over $5 million for the capital campaign to date, and the Friends of the Walnut Creek Library contributed $100,000 for the new library’s opening day collection supplement to help fill the new shelves.

WALNUT CREEK PARK PLACE LIBRARY

Library staff tour new library

Student poetry contest winners at Poetry Live!

Kindergarten class visit at Park Place Library
New Programs and Services

Introduced All Ears Reading in collaboration with Tony LaRussa’s Animal Rescue Foundation to help children with reading difficulties feel more relaxed and confident about learning by reading to certified dogs.

The Friends of the Ygnacio Valley Library funded a Wii gaming system to help teens collaborate creatively and socialize in a safe way on Wii Wednesdays.

The Friends of the Ygnacio Valley Library and the Walnut Creek Library Foundation contributed $1,250 to create a separate study area for elementary school students, and an improved browsing area for audio books, DVDs, and new books for adults.

A Vital Community Resource

Visitors borrowed over 388,000 items last year, making YVL the 4th busiest Contra Costa County Library.

11,490 people attended children’s events.

1,328 participants attended teen and adult events, including the very popular monthly adult book group discussions, programs on travel, art, and gardening, and small business, career and investment workshops.

Volunteers contributed 1,675 hours to mend books, cover donated books, search for requested items, and help with summer reading programs — an increase of 49% over last year’s volunteer service hours.