Whatcom County Library System

Coloring Outside the Lines
2010 Annual Report

During 2010, WCLS focused on keeping the long term fiscal health of the library balanced with the short term needs.

The introduction to the 2010 budget provided the criteria for doing so by factoring together:

- Sustainability
- Responsibility to taxpayers
- Value of attracting and retaining qualified staff
- Awareness of economic conditions and the ways that libraries must mirror the changing needs of the public
- Thriving as a library in line with the WCLS vision and mission

As always, decisions about the future of library services are in the hands of the people of Whatcom County—people of all ages, interests and abilities.

Managed by local volunteer Trustees, funded through local tax dollars, and serving the people of Whatcom County, WCLS is *the best place to begin!*

Joan Airoldi
Director

"A library is an arsenal of liberty"
source unknown

WCLS
the best place to begin

W Library Quick Facts

Population Served: 117,950
Library visits in 2010 826,152
Online library visits to WCLS.org 511,620
Hours open per year 19,279
Materials in collection..... 322,746
Materials checked out 1,655,621

C

55,272	books were read by
2,419	young readers in the children's Summer Reading Program.
3,453	school age children were drawn into the library to attend
94	programs featuring crafts, science experiments, music and much more.
7783	of the very young attended
520	Preschool Storytimes and Toddler Times.
2,486	students benefited from
112	booktalk or research visits in their middle school or high school classroom.
305	.....teens came to the library for
37	programs including writing workshops, mystery nights, & early release activities.
4937	adults discussed books, learned job searching techniques, practiced language skills, watched documentaries, enjoyed music and more at
432	programs in nine community libraries.

L

Internet computers available for public use.....89
Public internet sessions 122,818
Online library resource uses 124,604
Including job search & resume writing, consumer information, auto repair manuals, encyclopedias, eBooks, language learning, career test preparation, citizenship preparation, magazine and newspaper articles.

North Fork Community Library Opens Feb 28, 2011.

Celebrating Community Teamwork.

"We haven't paid a penny in labor at all. Everybody has just rallied — from the roofer, all the framers, electricians. We're so astounded how quickly we have gotten to this point." Georgina Furlong-Head, Maple Falls Library Branch Manager, *Bellingham Herald,* July 15, 2010.

S

Budget Facts:
General Operating Fund:
Beginning fund Balance: $3,109,618
Revenues: 7,595,946
Expenditures: 6,233,477
Transfers to Other Funds: 375,369
Ending Fund Balance:.....$4,096,718

Return materials from any of these libraries:

WLC
WHATCOM LIBRARIES COLLABORATE

Bellingham Public Library
Bellingham Technical College
Northwest Indian College
Western Washington University
Whatcom Community College
Whatcom County Library System