

2009

TIMBERLAND REGIONAL LIBRARY



Annual Report



WINTER

Adult Winter Reading

When Timberland Regional Library's 12th annual Adult Winter Reading program wrapped up in mid-March, grand prizes of overnight getaways and baskets of books and beverages were drawn for 14 lucky readers from among the 1,112 participants who turned in lists of the 14,510 books they read between January 2 and March 14. Timberland branch libraries also awarded additional prizes locally. Businesses and Friends of the Library groups donated all of the prizes.



SPRING

The Family Read-Aloud

CONNECTS FAMILY FUN WITH EARLY LEARNING

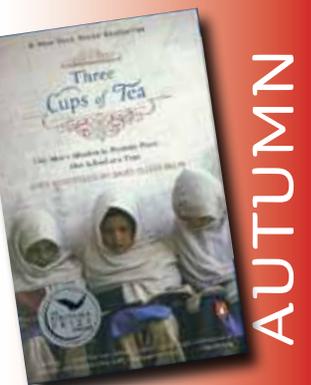
The research-based Family Read-Aloud program connects family fun with powerful results in early learning and reading skills through reading events and activities for home and the library. The program opens each year on Dr. Seuss's Birthday/Read Across America Day, March 2, and closes with Beverly Cleary's Birthday/Drop Everything and Read Day (D.E.A.R.) on April 12. In 2009, 1,489 families and classrooms read aloud together. Prizes included hundreds of books and other items. Grand prizes were backpacks and suitcases filled with books.



SUMMER

Creativity Flourishes At The Library

The 27 Timberland branches in Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason, Pacific and Thurston counties provided reading and hands-on experiences in the arts this summer for 13,287 babies, children and teens. Music, literature, drama and movement; writing, painting, sculpting and constructing—all were part of Timberland Regional Library's exuberant 2009 Summer Reading Program, "Get Creative @ your library" for children and "Express Yourself @ your library" for teens.



AUTUMN

Timberland Reads Together

ONE BOOK, ONE COMMUNITY

TRL's Timberland Reads Together initiative encourages people throughout Thurston, Mason, Lewis, Grays Harbor and Pacific counties to read and talk about the same book and to come together for the enrichment of related presentations. The book for 2009 was Three Cups of Tea: One Man's Mission to Promote Peace... One School at a Time, by Greg Mortenson and David Oliver Relin. Budget restrictions in 2009 meant no author presentations or large venues, yet 585 participants attended the program's 50 smaller events.



Downloadable Audiobooks

NOW AVAILABLE FOR THE IPOD

Downloadable audiobooks have been popular with library patrons since they were introduced in 2006. Until 2009 they only worked on Windows-compatible media players. Now most of the audiobooks can be used on iPods and iPhones. The number of downloadable items a person can check out at a time was also changed from 4 to 8 items.

“Your Money” Program - Phase Two

“Your Money: A Guide to Reaching Your Financial Goals” is a program that teaches basic financial investment skills for making financial decisions. Materials are available to TRL patrons under a grant by the American Library Association (ALA) and the Financial Industry Regulatory Authority (FINRA). In 2009, the Library produced a 10-minute video, “Tapped Out - 18 to 24 year olds talk about their financial challenges in the current economy.” The video is available on the TRL website. A course on personal finance is also available in several formats.



Executive Director Jodi Reng Retires

Timberland Regional Library Executive Director Jodi Reng began her tenure at TRL in November 2003. Under her leadership, new library buildings opened in McCleary, Westport, Chehalis and Ilwaco; the voters in Aberdeen and Shelton elected to annex into TRL, and library service kiosks were introduced in underserved areas. Ms. Reng retired on October 21.

The TRL Board selected Michael Crose, the library system’s Manager of Administrative Services, as interim director in October. TRL is conducting a national search for a new director and a review process will include public input and candidate presentations.



Fines For Overdue Items

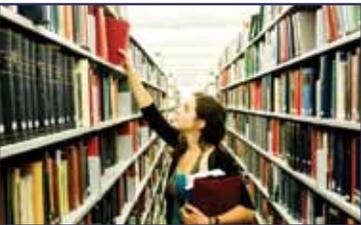
The Timberland Regional Library Board of Trustees voted at its May meeting to begin charging fines for overdue library materials. Beginning on October 1, items that were overdue accrued a \$0.15 per day fine for each overdue item for each loan period. The Board made this difficult decision in order to help close a budget gap after a library levy failed in February and to support ongoing library services.



“Renew Washington” Program

HELPS JOB SEEKERS & SMALL BUSINESSES

Timberland Regional Library was awarded a \$21,257 grant in 2009 to enhance services to residents in the five-county public library district during the ongoing economic downturn.



TRL’s grant is one of 17 *Renew Washington* grants awarded to public libraries by the Office of the Secretary of State, Washington State Library. Funding is provided by the Bill and Melinda Gates Foundation and the Institute of Museum and Library Services, a federal agency.



TRL is using part of the grant for up-to-date books, other print materials and online resources relating to jobs, adult education and small businesses. The grant will also provide special training for library staff in each branch to assist those who need help finding and using job and career resources, locating job opportunities, completing online job applications, retooling for new careers, filing for unemployment, improving interviewing skills, preparing résumés and cover letters, and starting or growing small businesses.



TRL Foundation Welcomes New Director

Beth Warner joined TRL in November as the Director of the Timberland Regional Library Foundation (TRLF). Ms. Warner brings a decade of experience in the professional management of non-profit foundations. Her expertise includes financial operation of non-profit foundations, developing bylaws, fundraising initiatives and special event planning. Visit the TRLF website at www.trlfoundation.org to learn more about the organization.

Ilwaco Timberland Library

On April 6, 2009 the Ilwaco library staff welcomed the community back to a completely renovated library in the Ilwaco Community Building. The public found 1,000 square feet more space, more computers and wifi access, new carpet and paint, updated furnishings, new books, upgraded heating and lights, and a meeting room—a first for the facility. Artist Dorothy Danielson’s new fantasy mural in the children’s area offers a doorway to imagination. Many hundreds of people in the Ilwaco community gave time, talent, effort and dollars to complete the project.



Raymond Library Celebrates 80 Years

The Raymond Library was built in 1929 on land donated to the city for a library. The neo-Tudor building was added to the National Register of Historic Places in 1979. For a full week in July, the library celebrated 80 years and a fresh exterior including a paint job and new landscaping. Funding was provided by a private donation with help from the City of Raymond.



2009 Statistics

Library cardholders: 342,560

Visitors to TRL libraries: 2,861,197

Library computer use: 634,842 sessions

Audiobooks, music and video downloaded: 26,245

Reference questions answered: 563,694

CIRCULATION

Cardholders borrowed 4,941,437 items.

COLLECTION

Timberland added 130,115 books, magazines, DVDs, talking books, music CDs and more for a total of 1,650,269 items. Withdrew 188,833 items from the collection.

PROGRAMS & ATTENDANCE

Children and family programs:
1,503 programs with 35,467 people

Adult programs: 732 programs with 7,232 people

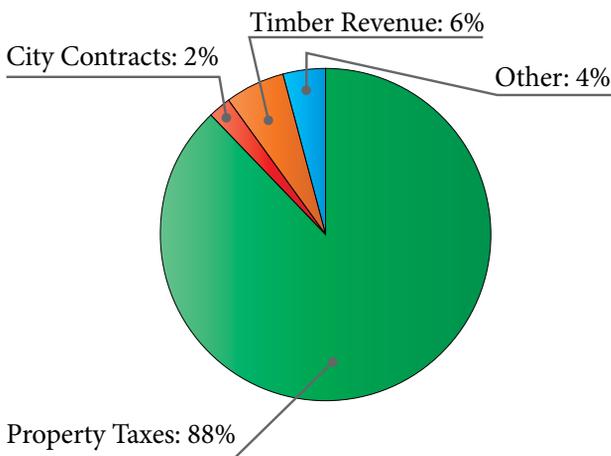
Teen programs: 244 programs with 2,669 people

VOLUNTEERS:

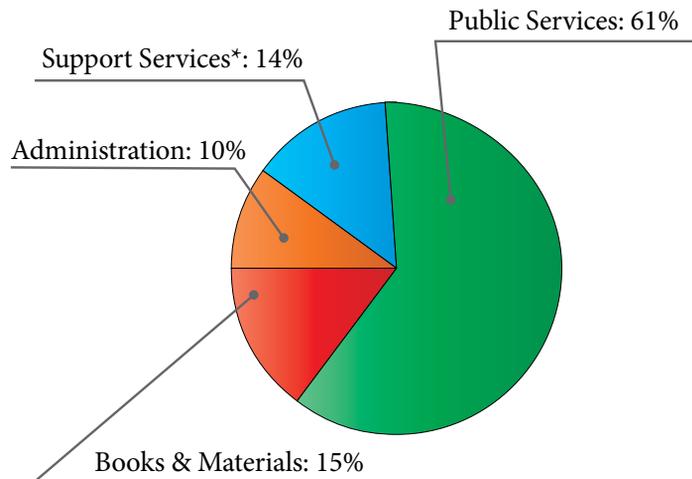
TRL received support from 2,099 volunteers. They gave 12,878 hours of their time. Thank you volunteers for your commitment and dedication!

Revenues & Expenditures

Total Revenues: \$18,552,228.22



Total Expenditures: \$18,318,735.97



*Includes selecting and buying books, preparing them for lending, delivering holds to patrons' libraries, borrowing from other library systems, and mending.

Increase to reserve fund: \$233,492.25