

A Plan for the Future

Last spring Timberland Regional Library launched a Strategic Planning process to develop its roadmap for where to focus library services and programs to meet the information needs of nearly half a million residents in Southwest Washington for the next five years (2014–18).

A dozen focus groups and a survey were conducted among 372 people across the five-county library district, including library patrons, staff, community leaders, TRL's Board of Trustees, Friends of the Library and other members of the public. The goal was to determine TRL's perceived strengths and weaknesses, current community issues and opportunities, key priorities and changing trends in the way the library will be used in the next few years.

Based on data gathered from the planning process, the TRL Board of Trustees and staff identified and

prioritized six service priorities for the Library District to focus resources towards over the next five years.

These include:

- Strengthen families & youth
- Support local economies
- Promote the library as a community gathering place
- Support community engagement through culture, history and the arts
- Enhance collections & technology
- Foster a supportive work environment

In addition to the service priorities, four organizational values were also developed to guide staff in fulfilling their duties. These include service, integrity, collaboration, and community focus.

The 2013 theme “Strong Communities: Building Our Future” continues in 2014 as it ties in with TRL's Strategic Plan to provide education and employment resources to equip people, businesses and communities to become more informed and successful. TRL and each of its 27 libraries will be developing action plans building in elements of the six service priorities into the delivery of library services, resources and programs.

The detailed Strategic Plan will be available on the TRL website at www.TRL.org and in libraries in the coming months.



This spring Timberland Regional Library has a song in its heart as the library's 13th annual Family Read Aloud early learning initiative adds music to the program.

Now the Family Read & Sing Aloud, the program runs from March 1 through April 12. The program centers on families reading aloud together—and now singing together—in all the areas of their homes. The program is mainly for children from infancy to grade 3, but all children are encouraged to join in the fun.

Families, child care providers and teachers may pick up “Read & Sing Aloud House” materials at any Timberland library, enter a drawing for prizes, and start reading and singing in rooms all over their homes. The more rooms and spaces, the merrier.

New materials for this year include a Nursery Rhyme Kit, a booklist of “Sing Along Stories,” and a “Books with a Beat” door hanger with a list of rhythmic read-alouds that just beg you to clap, tap your toes, snap your fingers, and pat your lap.

In addition to 60 free programs and activities at Timberland library branches, “Sing to your Librarian Week” will be held at all 27 branches during the week of March 24 to 29. Children are invited to sing a nursery rhyme, short song, or the ABC song to a librarian that week to receive a set of stickers.

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Fiction

At Night We Walk in Circles

Daniel Alarcon

An aged playwright and a young actor tour with a political theater troupe in a South American country recovering from social upheaval. Their developing friendship leads to both confusion and self-realization.

Lost Cat

Jason

A graphic novel, a classic and humorous detective story full of dogs who are detectives, a bookstore owner who charms a human detective, a few alien beings, and artwork full of pathos and plot impact.

Lost Lake

Sarah Addison Allen

A lakeside cabin resort in Georgia is comfortably aged—like its owner. Those who venture there find mystery, love, and the magic of another chance.

Some Kind of Fairy Tale

Graham Joyce

A young small-town English girl disappears one day and returns 20 years later, unaged, with a story that she was abducted by fairies.

Traps

MacKenzie Bezos

The paths of four women—a security guard, an actress, an abused teenage mother, and an older woman running a ranch for rescued dogs—cross briefly but with intense meaning.

Nonfiction

I Dare Me: How I Rebooted and Recharged My Life by Doing Something New Every Day

Lu Ann Cahn

Cahn shares what she learned in a year of trying something new every day and how others can do the same.

Gorgeous Nothings

Emily Dickinson

Full-color reproductions of the reclusive poet's writings on scraps of envelopes exactly as she wrote them.

America's Music

Bringing you some of America's most enduring popular music

The public is invited to a series of six free documentary film screenings at Olympia's Washington Center for the Performing Arts with discussions with Andrew (Drew) Buchman, Expressive Arts (Music) faculty member at The Evergreen State College.

America's Music highlights popular music from our country in the 20th Century, focusing on unique American musical genres.

The sessions will be held at the Washington Center, 512 Washington St SE, Olympia, on each Friday from April 4 through May 2, and one Saturday, on April 26, during Olympia's Arts Walk. All programs are from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Dr. Buchman will introduce each film and lead a discussion afterwards. The audience will have an opportunity to ask questions.

The series is made possible by a grant awarded to the Washington Center for the Performing Arts in Olympia in partnership with The Evergreen State College and Timberland Regional Library by the National Endowment for the Humanities,

America's Music Screenings

Washington Center
512 Washington St SE, Olympia

- April 4 Blues & Gospel
- April 11 Broadway & Tin Pan Alley
- April 18 Swing Jazz
- April 25 Country & Bluegrass
- April 26 Rock
- May 2 Latin Rhythms,
from Mambo to Hip hop

the Tribeca Film Institute and the American Library Association. Of the 81 locations that received the grant, this is the only one in the Northwest.

The web page at americasmusic.tribecafilminstitute.org includes additional information on the series as well as scholar essays, suggested readings, discussion points and additional films on the genres.

Family Read & Sing Aloud

(continued from front page)

Each of the 27 branches will draw a winner for a backpack filled with books chosen especially for the winning family or classroom. Friends of the Library groups throughout the district have generously provided hundreds of books. Branches will also have local drawings during the program for books and other prizes such as Read to Me calendars.

Complete Family Read & Sing Aloud program details are in libraries and online at www.TRL.org.

Tech Update: Social Media New Blog on Tumblr for Teens

Check out the new Tumblr blog for teens at trlteens.tumblr.com for book-to-movie news, videos, book reviews, GIFs, teen programs, and photos of teen events in the library.

Teens who are already Tumblr users can just "follow" the TRL Teens blog. Those who are not Tumblr users can subscribe to the RSS feed from the blog page.

Tumblr is a microblogging platform and social networking website that currently hosts over 170 million blogs. The service is most popular with teens and college-aged users. Half of its visitor base is under the age of 25.

Microsoft® IT Academy

Free, online, self-paced technology courses

If you are searching for a new job, advancing in your career, preparing for college, or looking to improve productivity for your business:

The Microsoft IT Academy, available on the Timberland Regional Library website, offers hundreds of self-paced, interactive technology courses on three levels:

- Basic digital literacy skills
- Microsoft Office skills
- Advanced skills for IT professionals

The Microsoft IT Academy can help you improve your skills to become more competitive in the job market, obtain certification in Office products and other applications, or get ready for college and learn shortcuts to be more efficient.

How to get started

Have a Timberland Regional Library card or identification showing you are a Washington resident. Talk with staff at any Timberland library branch or visit www.TRL.org and click **Research** then **Microsoft IT Academy** for more information. If you have questions, call 704-4636 in the Olympia area. Outside the Olympia calling area call 1-800-562-6022.

TRL offers free access to the Microsoft IT Academy for all area residents through a partnership with Microsoft, the Washington State Library, Office of Secretary of State, the Washington State Legislature and Washington libraries.

Upcoming Events at Your Libraries

Here are just a few of the hundreds of programs at Timberland libraries each month—author visits; book discussions; story times for all ages; historical, cultural and informational talks; writing workshops; and creative activities.

All programs are free of charge. For more programs, go to www.TRL.org and look under **Events** or **Locations**, or contact your local branch.

The area code for all phone numbers is 360.

Grays Harbor County

The Princess and the Frog, Book, movie & crafts
Hoquiam 532-1710
Mar. 15, 1 p.m.
For children & families

Gardening for the Birds
Elma 482-3737
Apr. 12, 2:30 p.m.
For adults & teens

Mason County

Harmonica Pocket's Get Loose with Seuss
Hoodsport 877-9339
Mar. 8, 1 p.m.
For all ages

Visit with Author Paul

Owen Lewis
Shelton 426-1362
Apr. 1, 6 p.m.
For all ages

Lewis County

Eric Ode Kids' Concert: Children's Books in Song
Centralia 736-0183
Mar. 14, 10 a.m.
For all ages

Green Fields of America, Storytelling, Folk Music & Paintings
Chehalis 748-3301
Mar. 8, 1:30 p.m.
For adults & families

Pacific County

Nursery Rhyme Scavenger Hunts
Ilwaco 642-3908
Naselle 484-3877
Ocean Park 665-4184
Raymond 942-2408
South Bend 875-5532
Mar. 4–Apr. 12, open hours
For children

Thurston County

ArtsTalk with Aisha Harrison, Sculptor
Olympia 352-0595
Mar. 19, 7:30 p.m.
For adults and teens

Sing Along with Caspar Babypants
Olympia 352-0595
Mar. 27, 10 a.m.
Lacey 491-3860
Mar. 27, 12 noon
For children age 2–6

Pizza and Paperbacks
Tumwater 943-7790
Mar. 28, 2 p.m.
For teens

The Heir Apparent: A Life of Edward VII, the Playboy Prince

Jane Ridley

A portrait of the prince who disappointed his mother, Queen Victoria, but became a hardworking head of state after ascending the throne.

Redefining Girly

Melissa Atkins Wardy

Gives parents the tools to fight back against the modern stereotyping and sexualization of young girls.

All Joy and No Fun: The Paradox of Modern Parenthood

Jennifer Senior

Forget how parents affect their kids. How do kids change their parents?

Great Reads Youth

Freddie & Gingersnap

Vincent X. Kirsch

E

Gingersnap, a little dragon, and Freddie, a little dinosaur, meet. They glare at each other. They growl and hiss and howl and stomp. Then their actions transform into a dance of friendship.

Nick and Tesla's High-Voltage Danger Lab

Bob Pflugfelder

J

11-year-old Nick and Tesla are sent to live with their Uncle Newt, a brilliant engineer of secret gadgets. Soon Nick and Tesla embark on adventures of their own. Each story contains instructions and blueprints for five projects.

Toilet: How It Works

David Macaulay

J

Nonfiction
Everyone knows what a toilet is for, but what happens after you flush? Take a tour from the familiar toilet through the sewer system to the municipal water treatment plant.

Palace of Spies

Sarah Zettel

YA

A well-bred orphan, 16-year-old Peggy is coerced into posing as a lady at the palace of King George I. Life is grand, until Peggy begins to suspect the girl she's impersonating was murdered.



Chosen by Timberland Regional Library selectors
Jean Padovan (fiction)
Kim Storbeck (nonfiction)
Jackie Marquardt (youth)

Ask a Librarian!

Central Reference librarians are here to help.

Central Reference hours* 704-INFO (4636)
Monday.....10 a.m.–7 p.m. (in the Olympia calling area)
Tuesday.....10 a.m.–7 p.m. 1-800-562-6022
Wednesday....10 a.m.–7 p.m. (Outside the Olympia area)
Thursday.....10 a.m.–7 p.m.
Friday.....10 a.m.–5 p.m. **www.TRL.org**
Saturday.....10 a.m.–5 p.m.

*Except holidays

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*The Timberland Regional Library
District (TRL) provides public
library services at 27 community
libraries to the residents of
Grays Harbor, Lewis, Mason,
Pacific and Thurston counties.*

2013 by the Numbers

27,738 new library cardholders (over 10% increase from 2012)
for a total of 243,428 library cardholders
2,805,253 visitors to TRL libraries (+5%)
4,353,138 library items borrowed (+1%)
266,835 audio books, music and video downloaded (+52%)
433,030 Reference questions answered (+20%)
3,344 library programs presented (+19%) to 82,151 attendees (+40%)

Libraries aren't only about the numbers. TRL staff share stories that capture some of the fun, meaningful and even life-changing experiences people have in their libraries. You can read recent ones at <http://www.trl.org/GetInvolved/Pages/Service-Stories.aspx>.

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Reference Databases: Health & Medicine

When you need in-depth information on a health condition or just the recent findings on an herb you're considering, you can access authoritative information on six searchable databases.

Consumer Health Complete
Mainstream, holistic and integrated medicine.

ProQuest Family Health
Sports injuries, women's and men's health, nutrition, midwifery, eye care and dentistry.

Health & Wellness Resource Center

Medicine, medications, wellness, and alternative therapies.

Salem Health

Magill's Medical Guide includes illustrations, sidebars indexes, and more.

Gale Medical Sourcebooks

E-books such as AIDs, Alcoholism, Allergies, Alzheimer Disease, Cancer, Diabetes, Mental Health and more.

Gale Encyclopedia of Medicine, ed. 4 (2011)

Over 1,700 medical disorders with discussion of causes, symptoms, diagnosis, treatments and procedures.

With your library card handy, visit www.TRL.org, click on the **Research** drop-down tab, and then **Reference Databases**. Under the Subject List, select **Health & Medicine**. The information provided is intended to support, not replace, the relationship between a site visitor and his/her physician.