News Release

SOLANO COUNTY LIBRARY **HEADQUARTERS** 1150 Kentucky Street Fairfield, CA 94533



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Solano County Library Celebrates Customers

In 2005, there were over 1.5 million visits to the seven branches of the Solano County Library in Fairfield, Rio Vista, Suisun, Vacaville, and Vallejo. The library is celebrating those visitors during National Library Week, April 2-8.

Customer Appreciation Day is Thursday, April 6. Hidden throughout the library will be bookmark/coupons that say, "We think you're special" and can be redeemed at the customer service desk for special "thank-you" gifts. "We started calling our users 'customers' a few years ago, because we know that folks have come to expect an excellent experience, whether they are shopping online, visiting a bookstore, or borrowing from a library" said Ann Miller, community relations coordinator for Solano County Library. And in order to make using the library even easier, new key fob library cards will be introduced this week. Customers can trade-in their old library cards for new ones that can be attached to a key ring. Entertainment during the week will be provided by Traveling Lantern Theatre, staging "Dorothy in the Land of Oz" at the Fairfield, Rio Vista, Vacaville Cultural Center and John F. Kennedy libraries.

Libraries aren't what they used to be. The shushing librarian stereotype has given way to a tech-savvy professional who is equally skilled at teaching a blogging workshop as

recommending the next page-turner. There are still books, magazines, newspapers, and even newly released movies on DVD to check out, but there's more, said Miller. "The diversity of the community is reflected in everything that is going on at the library. On any given day or evening, you might find a knitting group in one room, an English as a Second Language class in another, and a writers' group in yet another," said Miller. "Libraries have become the 'commons' of the community, a place where people can meet and interact with each other."

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