

2010 Annual Report



SPOKANE COUNTY
LIBRARY DISTRICT

MISSION:
To connect people
with resources, 24/7.

VISION:
To be indispensable
to the community.



Stories from the Stacks

Here are just a few of the countless stories of customer encounters over the years from our librarians and staff. These anecdotes illustrate what our libraries mean to the people who walk through our front doors every day.

“LOCATED across the street from an adult care facility, Argonne is often visited by residents who find themselves at home there, at least for awhile. One customer named Sharon is our special friend and one of our biggest advocates. She couldn't wait to bring over a brand-new resident who told me that he had been really good at mathematics before his head injury, and that he wanted some elementary books to re-teach himself algebra and trigonometry. He was really pleased with the selection we had to offer. When he left, he shook my hand and told me we'd be seeing him a lot.”

“SEVERAL years ago I was in Argonne showing state representative Lynn Schindler our database access and explaining how our public Internet access works. As we were near two of the public work stations (quietly) talking, one of the customers overheard and began telling Lynn how important Internet access is for her. She had been laid off, was job hunting, and could do that and apply for unemployment benefits without driving downtown. Then the other younger lady spoke up and said that she depends on it to do some of her EWU coursework since her home connection is too slow. These real-life and real-time testimonials of the importance of this library service to people's lives very much impressed our 4th District representative.”

“TWO teenage sisters and their brother were drawn to our American Indian Heritage book display, which included a funny picture of Sherman Alexie and quote, as well as information about his recent National Book Award. They carefully studied each book on display, selected a couple books to check out, and then said with pride in their voices, 'He is from our tribe.' Nice to connect with our customers through our book displays!”



“I WAS checking something in non-fiction at North Spokane, and heard two men talking at our two sit-down OPACS. I glanced at their screens to discover they were on the same page in our Auto Repair Reference Center database. One man was giving a lesson on transmission repair to the other using our database as his 'textbook.' Instant classroom, in the People's University!”

“A WOMAN told me recently that she had been a single parent of three children and remembers taking the kids to the store and having to tell them that they could not have things because she couldn't afford to buy them, not that she didn't want to. But after every trip to the store, on the way home they stopped at the library (Spokane Valley) because there they could have anything they wanted for free! It was the only thing that made her life bearable during this period, and her children talked about the library being the 'best place possible.' They even called it the 'candy store.’”



Covering 1,700 square miles with 10 full-service branches serving more than 250,000 residents, Spokane County Library District is the largest public library system in Spokane County and one of the 10 largest in the State of Washington. SCLD holds a collection of approximately half a million items and is proud of our reputation for exceptional customer service and fiscal responsibility. In the past several years, SCLD has increased operational hours and added services such as online tutoring, online reference and downloadable audiobooks, eBooks and music.

Spokane County Libraries benefit the communities we serve.

SCLD continuously brings the library, books and the joy of reading into the community by holding library card drives, sponsoring events like Spokane is Reading and providing Outreach Services to more than 100 adult and childcare facilities throughout the county.

Online library databases, most of which are accessible 24/7 from any home, work or school computer, help customers search for jobs, expand work skills and stay connected to their community.

Our trained, dedicated staff help teach parents and caregivers early literacy skills, which are



directly linked to a child's success while learning to read. Our youth and reference librarians, coupled with online homework help, assist children and students at every level find the materials they need to help them succeed.

Thanks to sound and ongoing community input, SCLD is prepared to be able to serve county residents well into the future. A 20-year Library Facilities Master Plan provides a roadmap to meet the ever-changing needs of the county's growing population.

2010 Funding

A dedicated property tax levy of 44.7¢ per \$1,000 of assessed valuation in the unincorporated county and annexed municipalities accounted for more than 93% of 2010 funding. Remaining revenue was derived from interfund transfers, interest earnings, contract fees, and other fees and charges.

Total 2010 revenue was \$10,499,671. Property taxes and contract fees totaled \$10,073,086. Other revenue was \$376,585. Total expenditures were \$9,975,026 and the unassigned operating reserve was \$2,262,565.

2010 Statistics

Materials borrowed:	2,538,468
Reference questions:	241,746
Unique website sessions:	832,059
Computers booked:	253,444
Library card holders:	116,788
Library visits:	1,372,601
Programs held:	2,172
Program attendance:	51,230
Staff (full & part time):	172

Governance

Spokane County Library District is a municipal corporation established by voters in 1942. An independent special-purpose district, SCLD's sole function is to provide public library service to the unincorporated county and affiliated municipalities. SCLD is governed by a five-member Board of Trustees, each of whom is appointed by the Spokane County Commissioners. A board-appointed Executive Director serves as chief administrator.

2010 Board of Trustees

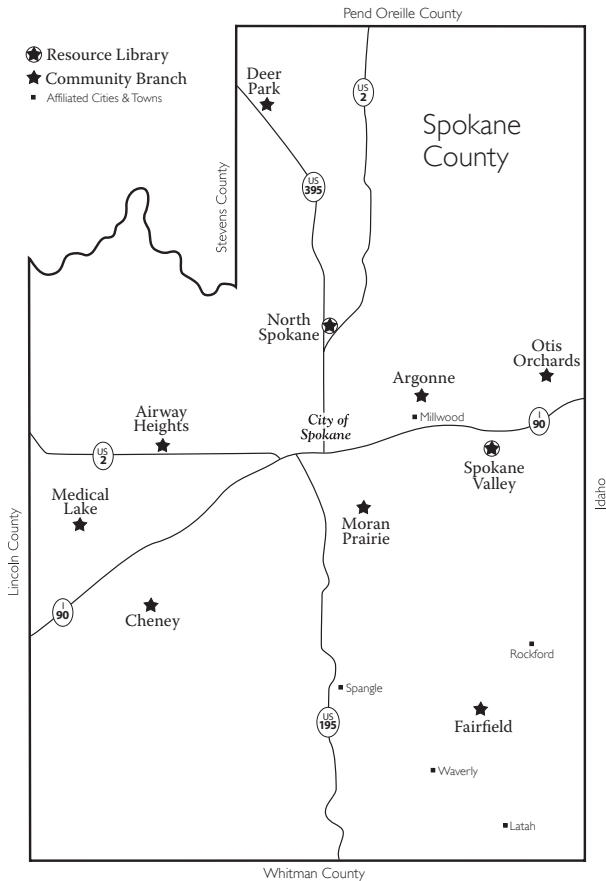
Chair: Jacob Laete; Vice-Chair: Tim Hattenburg
Trustees: Ann Apperson, Daniel Davis, Mary E. Lloyd

Library Executive Director

Mike Wirt

Area Served

Unincorporated Spokane County and the affiliated cities and towns of Cheney, Deer Park, Fairfield, Latah, Medical Lake, Millwood, Rockford, Spangle, Spokane Valley and Waverly (annexed to District), and Airway Heights (contracting with District).



Branches

Argonne Library
509.893.8260

Cheney Library
509.893.8280

Deer Park Library
509.893.8300

Fairfield Library
509.893.8320

Medical Lake Library
509.893.8330

Moran Prairie Library
509.893.8340

North Spokane Library
509.893.8350

Otis Orchards Library
509.893.8390

Spokane Valley Library
509.893.8400

Administrative Office
509.893.8200
fax 509.893.8472



www.sclid.org