

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — February 23, 2015

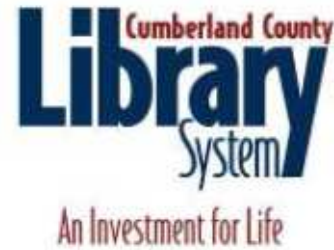
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Library Service Fact-Finding Session Set for Wednesday, Feb 25, 2015

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA – The Cumberland County Library System and County Commissioners’ first fact-finding session about library services will be held Wednesday, February 25, 2015 from 7 to 9 PM at the Carlisle Area School District Administrative Office’s Swartz Auditorium. The meeting is free and open to the public. The Swartz Auditorium is located at the complex’s far right, front entrance.

The purpose of this first session is to identify Cumberland County’s most pressing community needs and issues, and how those needs affect library services. Six panelists will share their expertise and knowledge through a series of brief presentations followed by questions and answers from the Cumberland County Commissioners, Library System Board members and the audience.

Guest panelists include:

1. Dr. Kent Chrisman, a professor of early childhood education at Shippensburg University will speak about the needs of young children and how library services can help prepare infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers to enter school, ready to learn and succeed.
2. Kathy Possinger, Executive Director of Tri County Community Action, a non-profit Community Action agency serving Cumberland, Dauphin, and Perry Counties will talk about how the lives of those living in poverty can be changed by library services that can help them achieve self-sufficiency.
3. Kathy Silks, Project Manager of PA Forward / Pennsylvania Libraries for the Pennsylvania Library Association will discuss the ways in which libraries improve the community’s quality of life by meeting the county’s literacy needs.
4. David Kalinoski, Associate State Director for Community Outreach at AARP – Pennsylvania, will discuss how older adults use libraries and the services that they need to enjoy a good quality of life.
5. Tim Whelan, Vice-President for Community Impact with the United Way of the Capital Region, will discuss some of the recent findings of the United Way’s in-depth community needs assessment and how libraries can address some of Cumberland County’s most pressing needs.

6. Lucy Suter Zander, Executive Director of United Way of Carlisle & Cumberland County, will speak about how the needs of central Cumberland County community's are similar or differ from those on the West Shore and how libraries can positively address those needs.

Following this first session, two more public meetings will be held:

Libraries of the Future: Panel Discussion

Wednesday, March 25, 2015, 7 to 9 pm
Conference Center at Shippensburg University
500 Newburg Road, Shippensburg

Library Finance: Panel Discussion

Thursday April 30, 2015, 7 to 9 pm
Boyer Hall, The Parma Cinema Center, Messiah College
2825 Chapel Drive, Mechanicsburg

For more information about the meetings, visit

http://www.cumberlandcountylibraries.org/?q=Building_Consensus. A recording of the February 25th meeting will be posted on the web site in about 2 weeks.

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Photos Attached:

- Tim Whelan
- Kathy Possinger
- Lucy Suter Zander
- David Kalinoski