

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE — February 10, 2015

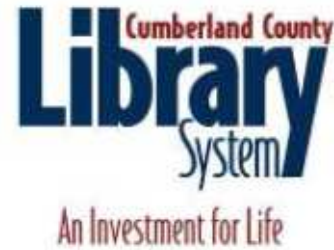
FOR MORE INFORMATION CONTACT:

Jonelle Darr, Executive Director

Cumberland County Library System

1601 Ritner Highway, Suite 100 | Carlisle, PA, 17013

(717) 240-6175; jdarr@cumberlandcountylibraries.org



Cumberland County Announces Three Fact-Finding Sessions about Public Libraries

CUMBERLAND COUNTY, PA – Cumberland County Commissioners and the Cumberland County Library System Board announced today that there will be three fact-finding sessions open to the public about public library services in Cumberland County. Larry Thomas, Cumberland County’s Chief Clerk and Operation Officer said that session topics will include the community’s needs for library services, future roles for public libraries and library finance.

To be held in Carlisle, Shippensburg and Mechanicsburg, each will feature a panel of experts from a variety of local, state and national organizations who will provide brief presentations in answer to questions posed by the Library System Board and County Commissioners. Following the panelists presentations, a moderator, Monica Gould, President, Strategic Consulting Partners (Mechanicsburg, PA) will facilitate a question and answer period, with priority given to County Commissioner and Library System Board member questions. As time allows, questions from the public will be answered.

Gould said that the purpose of these sessions is “for the County Commissioners and the Library System Board to learn more about three areas: the community’s needs for library services and how this is changing; what state and national experts on library services believe about how libraries have and are transforming; and how libraries need to adapt to a changing funding landscape.”

Jonelle Darr, Executive Director of the library system said that she was really looking forward to these meetings. “Each will be a really interesting opportunity for everyone to learn how libraries are already responding to our community’s needs, and what more we need to do to be headed in the right direction.”

The sessions and scheduled speakers include:

Community Needs for Library Services - February 25, 2015, 7 to 9 pm

Swartz Auditorium, Carlisle Area School District, 623 West Penn Street, Carlisle

- Tim Whelan, Vice President of Community Impact, United Way of the Capital Region
- Kathy Silks, PA Forward Coordinator, Pennsylvania Library Association
- Dr. Kent Chrisman, Professor of Early Childhood Education, Shippensburg University
- Kathy Possinger, Executive Director, Tri-County Community Action Commission
- David Kalinoski, Associate State Director, AARP

Libraries of the Future - March 25, 2015, 7 to 9 pm

Conference Center at Shippensburg University, 500 Newburg Road, Shippensburg

- Garry Golden, Library Futurist
- William D. Schell, President, York County Libraries
- Karen Archer Perry, Principal, Clarion Collaborative
- Amy K. Garmer, Director of the Aspen Institute Dialogue on Public Libraries and author of *Rising to the Challenge: Re-Envisioning Public Libraries*

Library Finance - April 30, 2015, 7 to 9 pm

Boyer Hall, The Parma Cinema Center at Messiah College, 2825 Chapel Drive Mechanicsburg

- Glenn Miller, Executive Director, Pennsylvania Library Association
- Karen Cullings, Community Relations Director, Dauphin County Library System
- Deborah Fulham-Winston, Asset Development Associate, The Foundation for Enhancing Communities
- Dr. Thomas R. Stone, Principal, Franklin Group

Each meeting is free to attend and open to the public. For updates on the project visit:

<http://www.cumberlandcountylibraries.org/?q=CHQ>.

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