

# New library branch in offing

Scotts  
Valley  
Banner

Libraries 1980-1988 8-13-80

p 1 & 2

By Bob Ligon

A new branch library for Scotts Valley appears in the offing. And it may be located in the proposed community center off Bean Creek Road.

Chief Librarian Charles Atkins last week recommended to the Santa Cruz City-County Library Board that the library master plan be revised to include a new branch for Scotts Valley.

In making his recommendation, Atkins told board members the Scotts Valley library has a higher use rate than any other branch library in the unincorporated area of the county, with the exception of the Aptos branch.

The board took the recommendation under advisement, setting a hearing on the matter for its Sept. 8 meeting.

The meeting will be in the main Library building at Santa Cruz, starting at 7:30 a.m.

When asked for comment on his recommendation, Atkins said he decided to take a "new look" at the master plan (adopted in 1969) because of the library use rate.

Previously, the plan called for branch libraries at Boulder Creek and the Capitola-Live Oak area. Scotts Valley was not on the list.

Atkins said there has been some preliminary discussion on the possibility of locating a new Scotts Valley branch in the community center.

Under the proposal, the developer of a townhouse project along Bean Creek Road would build the library and lease it back to the city-county library system.

The community center project is being advanced by the county's Cultural Action Committee, and a special committee made up of Scotts Valley residents.

(Continued on Page 2)

# SV may get new library branch

(Continued from Page 1)

The center would be located on land that is proposed by developer Marion H. Stekoll for a 225-unit townhouse project. The 15-acre site is situated between King's Village shopping center and Bean Creek Road.

The county committee approached Stekoll on the possibility of setting aside land in his townhouse project for the center.

When Stekoll agreed, a special committee of local residents was formed to study the feasibility of the proposal.

Jack Boone, a member of the committee, said last Friday that the committee "very definitely" is seeking to have the library branch be made a part of the community center.

Boone said there has been preliminary talks with the developer on the proposal, who has indicated a willingness to go along with it.

Stekoll's proposed 225-unit development is called Squabble

Hollow. It has not yet been formally submitted to the city.

Because of the size of the project, Stekoll would be required to set aside land in the project for open space. It is this land that would be used for the community center.

Stekoll has also indicated a willingness to rehabilitate existing buildings, or build new ones, in connection with the community center.

Boone said plans call for the library to have about 4,000 square feet of space, which would be in keeping with the library master plan.

Branch libraries for Boulder Creek and the Capitola-Live Oak area are now being considered for funding by the county Board of Supervisors. A site for the Boulder Creek facility has been offered free of charge.

Atkins said there currently is about \$230,000 in a special fund earmarked for new branch libraries. Other funds could also be made available, he said.

Just who would get top priority for the funds remains to be seen.

However, Atkins says from what he understands, relatively little county money would be needed for the Scotts Valley project.

A lease-purchase agreement would be entered into for the building, with the city-county library system making its contribution in the form of monthly payments.

The existing branch library is operating out of leased quarters in a building behind Camp Evers Food Center.

The library board, the Santa Cruz City Council and the County Board of Supervisors would have to approve before the local library branch could be built under such an arrangement.

In addition, the Scotts Valley City Council would have to approve Stekoll's townhouse project before the community center project would be feasible.

THE FINEST FAMILY

Manley named pastor