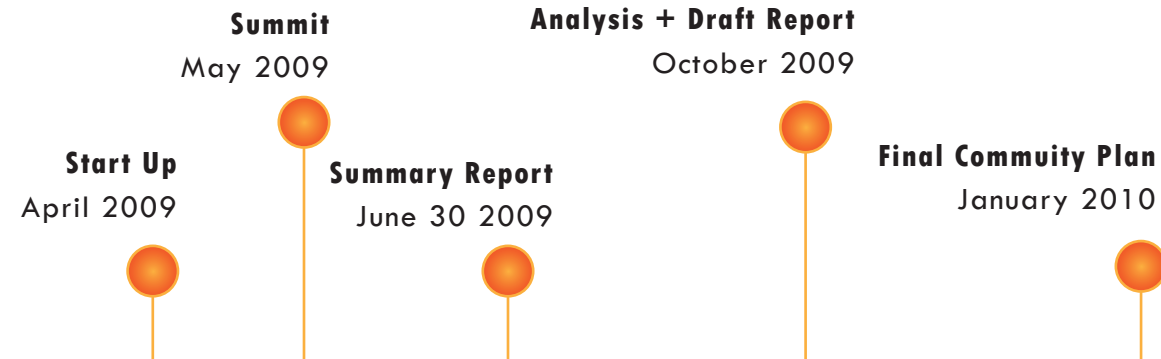


next steps



**public outreach + input**

**Anchorage Public Library**  
Clare Stockert  
907.343.2983  
StockertCE@ci.anchorage.ak.us

The Anchorage Public Library Community Strategic Planning process is being conducted with assistance from Himmel and Wilson, a nationally recognized library consulting firm, and Agnew::Beck, an Anchorage-based planning and community development firm.

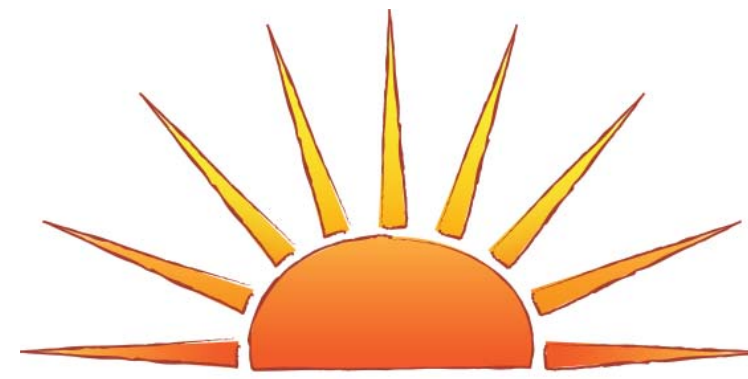
**Himmel & Wilson**  
Bill Wilson  
608.868.1133  
wilson@libraryconsultant.com

**Agnew::Beck Consulting**  
Michael Howard  
907.222.5424  
michael@agnewbeck.com

**Friends of the Library**  
Carrie Keene, President  
Don McDermott, Vice President  
Cathy Steen, Treasurer  
Andi Malard, Secretary  
Brooks Chandler  
Linnea Cummings  
Carol Sturgulewski  
Kathy Kiddell  
Mary Rasmussen  
Karen Keller, Ex-Officio  
Toni McPherson, Ex-Officio

**Anchorage Library Foundation**  
Joseph J. Perkins, Jr., President  
Jerry Pollock, Vice President  
Blythe Campbell, Treasurer  
Elaine Kroll, Secretary  
LB Gregory  
Tanya Iden  
George Lyle  
Mary Rasmussen  
Roe Sturgulewski  
Susan Urig  
Charles Wohlforth  
Karen Keller, Ex-officio Member  
Barney Gottstein, Honorary Trustee

Check us out on the Web:  
[www.Anchorage21stCenturyLibraries.org](http://www.Anchorage21stCenturyLibraries.org)



ANCHORAGE  
21st CENTURY  
LIBRARIES

# Summit

## PROGRAM

**Tuesday, May 19, 5:30-9 p.m.**

*Wilda Marston Theatre at the  
ZJ Loussac Library (on 36th & Denali)*



Photos by Kelly DuFort, Agnew::Beck



[www.Anchorage21stCenturyLibraries.org](http://www.Anchorage21stCenturyLibraries.org)



# library

## SERVICES

The Anchorage Public Library is a destination, a classroom, a community center, a job center, a computer lab, an information distribution center, and a gateway to the community for new citizens. The first public library in Anchorage opened with a small collection of donated books in 1917, shortly after the founding of the city.

Today's bustling Anchorage Public Library has expanded far beyond anything the city's early library founders could have imagined: APL now circulates over 1.6 million books and other media a year. The main Z.J. Loussac Library and its five branches serve over 871,000 visitors each year, more than 135,000 Anchorage residents have library cards, and over 61,000 children and adults participated in library programs last year. As Alaska's largest net lender of materials through inter-library loan with smaller libraries around the state, APL truly is "Alaska's library."

## presenters

### George M. Needham

Bringing years of expertise and research data to any process, George Needham excels at provocative data-driven content on the future of libraries. His experience is diverse and includes State Librarian of Michigan as well as extensive association work as the Executive Director of the Public Library Association and the Director of Member Services of the Ohio Library Association. In addition, he has worked in public libraries in Ohio and South Carolina. He is known for his wonderful delivery style, his copious publications and his landmark work at OCLC.



### Joan Frye Williams

For more than 25 years, Joan Frye Williams has been a successful librarian, consultant, vendor, planner, trainer, evaluator, and user of library services. She began her career in 1975 at the California State Library. She also worked for a number of library automation vendors. Since 1996, she has been an independent consultant specializing in innovation, technology, and the service needs and preferences of non-library "civilians."



### Carlton Sears

Carlton Sears has been the Director of the Public Library of Youngstown and Mahoning County since 1997. Carlton has overseen a renaissance in public library service in the Youngstown area in which the library has positioned itself as a leader in collaboration and partnerships. Mr. Sears was honored by the Urban Libraries Council with their "Urban Player" award in 2005.



### Bill Wilson

Bill Wilson has been working in and with libraries for more than 40 years. A partner in the library consulting firm of Himmel & Wilson, Bill has worked on more than 350 projects with libraries, regional library systems, and state library agencies in 40 states during the past 22 years. Prior to pursuing his full time consulting career, Mr. Wilson served as Wisconsin's State Librarian.



### Ethel Himmel

Dr. Ethel Himmel is an experienced public librarian, library consultant, and researcher. She pursued her doctorate in Library Science after more than a decade of front-line work in public libraries. Ethel's list of projects ranges from strategic planning with small rural public libraries to research efforts of national significance. Ethel and her partner Bill Wilson authored the American Library Association's *Planning for Results: A Library Transformation Process*.



# 21st century library summit

## AGENDA

5:30-6 — Open House Carnival

6-7:30 — Presentations and Discussion

Nationally-recognized speakers and local community leaders share knowledge and information on a vision for 21st Century Libraries and the possible future of the Anchorage Public Library.

7:45-8:45 — Small-Group Work Sessions

Participate in a lively, productive discussion with your colleagues, friends and neighbors about specific aspects of the Library — "Innovations in Programs," "Technology" and "Library as Community."

8:45-9:15 — Full Group Report and Q+A

9:30 — Adjournment. Thank you for participating!

## about the project

The Anchorage Public Library, in conjunction with the Library Foundation and the Friends of the Library are beginning a community-driven action plan for public library service in Anchorage. The process places considerable emphasis on the word "public" in the term "public library." Extensive outreach to community leaders, the neighborhoods of Anchorage and the general public is a significant part of this process. The aim is to develop a Community Strategic Plan for the Anchorage Public Library that is innovative, practical, effective and sustainable.

Part of this effort aims to identify a mix of Library service offerings that reflect the public's needs and are highly relevant to the people of the community. America's public libraries are busier than they have ever been, and Anchorage's library system is no exception. Once seen as dusty repositories of history,

libraries have transformed themselves into the information commons where people and ideas come together, where education, community and economy are strengthened.

We are asking our entire community to be part of this effort to ensure that the Library is the place where businesses begin, where neighbors meet, where work, school and personal lives strengthen, where education is joyful, where citizens inform themselves, and where access to information is easy and affordable for everyone. More than a building, our Library can act as both our "community living room" and our connection to the global village.

Help invent the future of the Anchorage Public Library. We appreciate your involvement in this important community process.

***"From program attendance to circulation and library cardholders, the numbers are on the rise in every category. We registered an additional 20,000 cardholders in 2008."***

***— Karen Keller, Director, Anchorage Public Library***