



"Challenging People to Shape a Better Future Now"

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Library

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sonally like to get a book and turn the page myself."

Reichert said more than 300 requests have been received since the service launched June 13. She noted that although most of the requests are still for print books, librarians have seen a steady growth on requests for electronic books as well as CDs and audio books.

"People will say 'can you try to get me eBooks' or 'can you get me eBooks when (a certain title) becomes available,'" she added.

The upcoming temporary closure is a good opportunity for local library users to plan ahead. "For those who aren't familiar with our digital collection, this is a good time to learn how to download books, movies and music, since they will be available during

the closure," said Lin Schnell, interim chief executive officer for the library, in a press release.

Regarding the closure, Schnell

books and materials, and fixed costs, such as telecommunication, Internet services and utilities. "Without the closure, we would

Although most of the requests are still for print books, librarians have seen a steady growth on requests for electronic books as well as CDs and audio books

said the library has limited options when dealing with cuts of this magnitude.

"There weren't any easy choices," she said, noting that the majority of the library's budget pays for personnel to run the libraries. The remainder pays for

have had to cut more operating hours or further reduce the book budget," she added.

The closure will reportedly save the library about \$650,000; it also means reduced paychecks for nearly 640 employees, according to the press release.

When asked about how the week-long closure would affect his right to access library resources, Johnston said the impact is going to be negligible but added that the closure to him is a political move and the government should justify a little more of their spending.

"I kind of feel bad for people who work here," Johnston said. "I don't like that we have to close our libraries. A lot of things that have been in place for years, now, they don't have it anymore. At the same time, they are offering tens and thousands of dollars for an artist to come in. I am not against art, but art to me isn't a requirement. I just feel bad that these guys have to forgo their work for

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Immigration

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evolves, with its final shape uncertain. Department of Homeland Security Secretary Janet Napolitano said that communities will not have an option of whether to join when the program becomes mandatory by 2013.

Immigrant right groups say Secure Communities can discourage immigrants from reporting crimes and can lead to the deportation of people who haven't been convicted of anything. Advocates have gone on the offensive in the past year, publishing internal documents through records requests, lobbying lawmakers, and setting up community groups.

"We need an immigration system that's dealing with immigration. There are a lot of mechanisms in place for people who are serious criminals. They can be tracked now," said Pramila Jayapal, executive director of OneAmerica, the state's biggest immigrant advocacy group. Her

group has met with many of the sheriffs making the decision on whether to activate the program. In Yakima County, the first coun-

Massachusetts, Illinois and New York have said their states will not participate.

Massachusetts Gov. Deval Patrick's office, citing ICE statistics, said that one-quarter of the people who were deported after being flagged by Secure Communities had committed a serious crime, while more than half were "non-criminals." While Patrick's office has opposed Secure Communities, it continues to work with ICE on other local-federal agreements.

In Washington, ICE asked Gov. Chris Gregoire in 2009 to make a decision for all the counties. State Patrol spokesman Bob Calkins said the governor's office decided in 2010 not to undermine county law enforcement authority, but that the State Patrol would facilitate any jurisdiction that wanted to join the local-federal partnership.

The State Patrol houses the Washington fingerprint database for the counties, but already

shares the fingerprints with the FBI. For now, the FBI sends fingerprints from those counties that have opted into the program to ICE, for crossing-checking with its database.

Lathim thinks the new program won't change much in Franklin County. He said that for the past two decades, immigration officers have checked his jail bookings routinely.

Secure Communities is part of ICE's efforts to target immigrants with criminal records. The checks of jail bookings have been in place under the Criminal Alien Program.

For a quarter century now, Lathim has been a lawman in eastern Washington. He has seen firsthand the changing demographics of his county — the sharp rise of the Latino immigrant population. The last Census revealed that the county is now majority Latino. Lathim says he's got a good relationship with the immigrant com-

The pushback against Secure Communities is nationwide, as the program evolves, with its final shape uncertain

ty to join, the group brought opponents of Secure Communities to county council meetings after county officials declined to meet with them.

In June, ICE tweaked the program's guidelines to address some concerns. A new policy directs ICE officers and attorneys to use appropriate discretion to make sure victims and witnesses to crimes are not put into deportation proceedings. The Department of Homeland Security's Inspector General's office is also taking a closer look at the program.

Still, the governors of

COMMUNITY CALENDAR

SEATTLE JULY 2011



If you have an event you want to share with the community, email it two weeks in advance to *The Skanner* at info@theskanner.com

Thursday July 21

PUBLIC GARDEN PARTY TO CELEBRATE NEW GARDEN WALK AT SHERATON SEATTLE HOTEL: The festive garden party will feature live entertainment, the dedication of the garden walk and much more. Noon – 1 p.m. adjacent to

the Sheraton Seattle Hotel, 7th Ave. and Union St.

Friday July 22

JAMAICAN JAMBOREE FUN FAMILY FRIDAY! Themed fun, activities, games and prizes. Fun for the whole family. Children must be accompanied by an adult. Admission is \$4.75 adults, \$3.25 youth/sr. Munger Pool, 2535 32nd Ave. W. 5:30 p.m. – 7:30 p.m.

Saturday July 23

GO DOG GO! CANINE FESTIVAL & DOG! Admission to the festival is free. Walk is \$20.00. This is a family fun event for all ages games, contest, demos and more. 9 a.m. – 2 p.m. Snow Mountain Ranch, Kirkland, WA

Sunday July 24

3RD ANNUAL PIKE PLACE MARKET FRUIT FESTIVAL! Make a special fun-filled day at Pike Place Market. Nosh as you stroll and enjoy a sit down meal, and shop for among other things fresh, locally grown fruits and veggies all day long.

Friday thru Sunday July 29 – 31

ANAND MELA: JOYFUL FESTIVAL OF INDIA! Enjoy free concerts of Monoghi Hi, Delhi2Dublin and much more. Lots of tasty Indian food & other attractions. For more details and times please check website at www.anandamela.org. Redmond City Hall Campus, 15670 NE 85th St. Redmond, WA

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