

## DIRECTOR'S MESSAGE

Your record-shattering usage of the library continued to skyrocket in 2008, and we sprinted to keep up with you! You visited your libraries 77,695 more times than the previous year. In 2008 you checked out 133,364 more items than in 2007. Part of this can be attributed to some new collections – we now offer feature films on DVD, and downloadable audiobooks. Both formats are wildly popular.

As the national economic picture began its decline in 2008, library staff took a hard look at streamlining procedures and tightening belts, while maintaining excellent library services for the community. We look forward to the years ahead with careful optimism and a continued commitment to being good stewards of public resources.

We are fortunate to live in a town where the library is an important institution, and where you support it so well by using it like crazy. On behalf of the Library Board of Trustees and your library staff, thank you for a great 2008!

Pamela Nyberg Kiesner  
Library Director



*The Friends of the Bellingham Public Library hosted a bus tour of libraries in Skagit and Snohomish counties.*

### **Friends of the Bellingham Public Library**

President, Christine Walsh  
Vice President, Ruby Larive  
Treasurer, Catherine Huhndorf  
Asst. Treasurers, Richard Zarnowitz & Nancy Newstrom  
Secretary, Marcia Leishman

### **Fairhaven Friends**

President, Marilyn Olsen  
Vice President, Pam Went  
Treasurer, Claude Hill  
Secretary, Faye Hill

### **Major Friends Projects in 2008**

- Redesigned reference desks
- Picture books, display unit & chairs for Barkley Branch
- Book Club Kits
- Welcome Desk
- Graphic Novels
- Downloadable Audiobooks
- Summer Reading
- Thursday Night Spotlight ...and much more. THANK YOU, FRIENDS!



#### **Central Library**

210 Central Avenue  
360-778-7321

M - Th 10 a.m. - 8 p.m.  
F - Sa 10 a.m. - 5 p.m.  
Su 1 p.m. - 5 p.m.

#### **Barkley Branch**

3111 Newmarket Street, Suite 103  
360-778-7290

Tu & Th 2 p.m. - 6 p.m.  
W, F, & Sa. 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

#### **Fairhaven Branch**

1117 12<sup>th</sup> Street  
360-778-7188

M - Sa 12 p.m. - 6 p.m.