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Foundation

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NEWS RELEASE

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE: Foundation to Match New Ferndale Library Donations

The Whatcom Community Foundation announced that it is in a position to match dollar-for-dollar all gifts to the New Ferndale Library capital campaign through December 1st, 2010. This exciting news comes on the heels of the recent \$25,000 donation from Sam Boulos, Ferndale resident and owner of Keith Oil. “This is an unprecedented opportunity for donors at all giving levels to double the impact of their gifts to the library project,” noted Foundation CEO Mauri Ingram.

The new Ferndale library will be constructed on Main Street west of Ferndale City Hall. At more than \$2.9 million, the project capital campaign is near 60% of its goal. The estimated cost of the new library, including land acquisition, design, construction, furniture and fixtures, is approximately \$5.1 million.

Library users and staff are excited about the building design by Seattle architects SHKS. “Being inside the building will feel almost like a walk through Schell Marsh,” said branch manager Sarah Koehler. “The design brings the surroundings inside. In addition, the design allows us a lot of flexibility to respond to changing community needs. It will be a wonderful place for our patrons to enjoy *and* we will be able to accommodate many more of them!” Construction is slated to begin in late 2011.



New Ferndale Library Building Design by SHKS Architects

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The economic downturn underscores the library's value to the Ferndale community. Demand for library services continues to grow. It far exceeds the existing building's capacity. Between 600 and 900 area residents of all ages visit the library every day. Users are seeking employment opportunities, honing their job search and other skills, studying, accessing the Internet and more. Library supporters began working with the City of Ferndale and the Whatcom County Library System in 2006 to plan for a new, larger home for the beloved Ferndale institution. The Foundation is the project fiscal sponsor, providing support for the community's capital campaign, as well as administering the project's charitable contributions and grant funds. For more information about the new Ferndale Library or to make a contribution online, please visit:

www.newferndalelibrary.org. Donations to the Library project may also be made online at www.whatcomcf.org.

Whatcom Community Foundation, a 501(c)(3) Federal Nonprofit organization, connects people who care with causes that matter. More than 3,800 donors have contributed nearly \$20 million to the Foundation which holds 171 funds to benefit a wide variety of charitable and educational activities in Whatcom County.