

**In support of the Pearl Watts Proclamation  
at the Mendocino County Board of Supervisors meeting on February 23, 2021**

Pearl Watts is a force of nature! Beginning with her early involvement with the Friends of Coast Community Library (FOCCL) in the 1990s and after the library joined the County Library system in 2000, Pearl continues to be a dedicated library supporter, although the pandemic has reduced her many activities. I list her contributions here in the present tense as a gesture of hope that the ending of the pandemic will soon allow people's re-involvement with their communities.

Pearl is: a terrific library volunteer (devoting hours every week to her shift at the desk), a long-time promoter of adult education classes at the library, a thoughtful FOCCL Board member holding many positions over more than 20 years, an indefatigable fundraiser, a Library Advisory Board member (driving for hours with her husband Jeff to attend meetings), and a Bea's Bakers volunteer (baking delicious cookies for library events). And, this is just a list of her library-related activities!

Always she has been a tireless promoter of the public library as shown by her support and influence when helping pass Mendocino County's Measure A in 2011 (a one-eighth cent sales tax supporting the public library). She spoke before numerous organizations and met with a broad spectrum of people encouraging them to support their public library.

Her positive energy makes her a great fundraiser, not only helping FOCCL raise funds for the 2003 renovation of the historic Gillmore Building that today houses Coast Community Library, but, again in 2017, helping to raise over \$400,000 for the library building's seismic retrofit. Her great, wry sense of humor and understanding of human nature I'm sure contribute to her success as a fundraiser.

I love that this proclamation honors Pearl Watts for her dedication to the public good because this is exactly what she represents, she talks the talk and walks the walk for the people of our county through her continual support of the community library and all libraries.

{

Julia Larke, Branch Librarian  
Coast Community Library  
P.O. Box 294  
Point Arena, CA 95468  
707 882-3114  
[larkej@mendocinocounty.org](mailto:larkej@mendocinocounty.org)