



The Locke High School Jazz Band.



From left: Kathleen Larson, Adult Librarian, Wilmington Library, 5 years; Jené Brown, Sr. Librarian, Junipero Serra Library; Liz Gooden, Children's Librarian III, Vermont Square Library; Cynthia Merina, Sr. Librarian, Angeles Mesa Library, 8 years; Joann Morgan, Jefferson Library, 10 years; Connie Dosch, Sr. Librarian, Vernon Library, 20 years; Emma Roublow, Young Adult Librarian, San Pedro Library, 39 years; Betsey Hoage, Assistant Director of Branches, 37 years; and Georgette Todd, Director of Young Adult Services, 39 years.



From left: Darlene Fields-Harris, Liz Gooden's friend since 1960; Thelma Morris, Retired, Library Dept.; and Ruth Brown, Children's Librarian, Pio Pico Library, 35 years.



From left: Andrew Smith, Katrina Smith and Catherine Thomas.



From left: Ted Davenport, brother-in-law of Liz Gooden; and Henry Roy, step-father of Liz Gooden.

# Goodbye to Gooden

■ Library says goodbye to longtime children's librarian Liz Gooden.

Story by Bev Haro, Club Counselor  
Photos by Summy Lam, Club IT Business Analyst

LIBRARY — Friends and co-workers of Elizabeth Gooden went all out to bid her farewell after 25 years of City service.

The party was held June 5 at the Junipero Serra library branch in South Los Angeles.

Elizabeth Gooden, Children's Librarian III, has been a mentor, role model, teacher and inspiration for the Children's Librarians in the Central/Southern Area of the City.

Her City career in 1980 as Children Librarian I at the Mark Twain Branch and remained there for 19 years. During her tenure at Mark Twain branch, she helped to coordinate three Sanwa Bank Book Festivals, where more than 4,000 books were given away to children.

In 1999 she was promoted to Children's Librarian III and transferred to the Vermont Square Branch Library. In 2002 she was the first recipient of the "Librarian of the Month" Certificate of Appreciation, presented by the Children's Services Department.

Elizabeth is known for her extraordinary talents as a storyteller; local elementary school

teachers told the audience at the retirement party that the one mile walk to her library was well worth the trip.

It was a beautiful celebration. The Retirement Party Committee outdid itself for Liz Gooden's retirement. The committee transformed the library with their decorations and organized a sequence of speakers filled with good words about Liz, not only as a librarian, but also as a person. Her friends and colleagues described her a virtuous woman and wonderful storyteller.



One of the decorative banners that adorned the library walls.

The committee consisted of: Jacqueline Roberts and Shomara Gooden, chairs; Jené Brown and Brenda Hicks, co-chairs; and Alberta Roy; Henry Roy; Joann Morgan; Cynthia Merina; Linda Henderson; Judah Jean-Marie; Novella Bland; Rosalie Preston; Connie

Dosch; Cash Gooden; Bernie Gooden Sr.; and Stephanie Roberts. Decorations were by Retha Walker, and bulletin boards were by the Jefferson Branch staff. Thanks to Jacqueline Roberts for her assistance in producing this story.

The Club congratulates Liz for her great service to the City and its readers, young and old. Enjoy your retirement!



From left: Gladys West, friend, with Liz Gooden.



From left: Edris Newton, Principal Librarian, Hollywood Area Manager; Eloise Logan, Sr. Librarian, Washington Irving; and Jené Brown, Sr. Librarian, Junipero Serra, 8 years.



The audience enjoying the presentation.



From left: Maggie Johnson, Sr. Librarian, Palms Rancho Library; and Eloise Logan.



Janine Goodale, Central/Southern Area Manager, gave Liz Gooden a 25-year pin and a black leather watch.



Charlotte Jackson.



An elementary school teacher saying kind words about Liz Gooden.



Ms. Sparks.



Ms. Stillman, Budlong Elementary School.



Liz's family members in attendance.



Gerald Waddis (Minister Waddis), Library Officer, 5 years, and his wife, Dorcas.



From left: Emma Roublow; Charlotte Jackson, Retired from LAPL; and Norma Anderson, Retired, Library Dept.



Children's Librarian from the Mark Twain Branch.



From left: Liz Gooden with Jackie Roberts, Committee Chairperson of Retirement Party.