Jeff Davis library director announces retirement

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JENNINGS — Jeff Davis Parish Library Director Linda LeBert-Corbello told police jurors Wednesday that she will retire at the end of the year.

"This has been the best job I have ever had, and I have had great support," LeBert-Corbello said. "I feel like all of us — you and our library board — have really made a difference serving the people of our parish."

She said she will leave the post, which she's held since 2003, on Dec. 28 to travel and spend more time with her husband and grandchildren.

LeBert-Corbello worked in the public school system for 31 years and was principal at Immaculate Conception Cathedral School in Lake Charles for 13 years. She spent six years as the interim director and department head for teacher education at McNeese State University.

She is the author of the book "In Shadow of My Brother's Cold Blood" and writes a newspaper column about the library system.

LeBert-Corbello has overseen the construction of new libraries in Elton and Lake Arthur and renovations of the Welsh branch and Jennings headquarters.

The last major renovation project — improvements to the basement of the headquarters — will be completed later this year.

All the projects have been done with funds set aside by the library board, without having to ask taxpayers for more money, LeBert-Corbello said.

"The board will select a new director by September, and she or he will work with me for four months, then I will retire," she said.

Police Juror John Marceaux, who serves on the library board, praised LeBert-Corbello for her efforts to move the library system forward.

"The library system in Jeff Davis Parish has done a lot, and if you haven't seen the library in Jennings, I'd like for everybody to go and see it," Marceaux said. "It is awesome."

The Jennings headquarters has undergone a three-phase renovation project in the last four years with the addition of a reading room, a children's area and a meeting room.

LeBert-Corbello is a native of Welsh and lives in LeBleu Settlement.