



Friends
OF THE MODESTO

May 2020

LIBRARY NEWSLETTER

Library Adult Programs Offer Learning, Creativity

By: Maree Hawkins

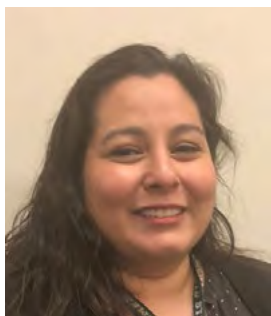
- Poetry Workshops.**
- Container Gardening.**
- Scrapbooking.**
- Computer Classes.**

These programs and many more are offered at the Modesto Library thanks in large part to Reference Librarian Vicki Salinas, who brings her curiosity and sense of fun to the table when planning programs for adults.

Salinas, who has worked at the Library since 2005 and earned her Library degree in 2008, has coordinated programs for adults since 2011. The Modesto Library offers several adult programs each month. Programs are always free and open to the public.

Program planning begins with ideas for topics and presenters, ideas that often come from vocal customers and local governmental and non-profit agencies. Salinas puts her curiosity to work as she sleuths through social media and local publications to identify topics that are trending and experts to present the programs. Programming is always a collaborative effort with her colleagues, both in Modesto and with staff at the other 12 sites throughout the county.

Salinas notes that adult programming is educational and always a learning experience, even when it is fun.



She also enjoys attending the programs, learning and doing right along with library customers.

She views a library as a community gathering place that can help people be more educated and informed, as well as make connections with others who share their interests.

down-and-listen type of program, but are often interactive."

There are always unknowns when presenting a program. Salinas notes that attendance can be high, low or somewhere in the middle. "It goes in waves," she adds. A well-attended topic is scrapbooking, which is offered regularly. Materials are provided by Friends of the Modesto Library.

For four hours the public is invited to bring photos and try their hand at scrapbooking. Paper, scissors and scrapbook adornments are provided. "Support from the Friends ensures that adult and family programs happen, either through monetary donations or volunteer support," says Salinas.

Sometimes a one-time program evolves into a partnership. For example, The Modesto-Stanislaus Poetry Center provides a series of poetry writing workshops June through September for adults and teens. There is also a quarterly poetry book club meeting at the library. The first Master Gardener's class to be held in Stanislaus County through the California Cooperative Extension Service approached the library to hold a container gardening class this year. This could be the first in a series of gardening events at the library.

Salinas's programming wish list for the Modesto Library includes music programs, citizenship classes and citizen swearing in ceremonies and cooking classes. ■

"...adult programming is educational and always a learning experience, even when it is fun."

In addition to a topic and an expert, a program also needs an audience. "Small groups can be amazing," she says. No matter how many people are there, she wants everyone to leave informed and with a sense of fun. "Our programs are not always a sit

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The Friends promotes goodwill and community support for the Modesto Library, stimulates public awareness of Modesto Library needs, and seeks sources of cultural and educational programs for the Modesto Library.

Meetings are held the first Wednesday of March, June, September and December and are open to all members or interested individuals.

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ModestoLibraryFriends.org

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for printing our
newsletter

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Spring is usually a crazy-go-nuts time for the Friends of the Modesto Library, so the COVID-19 shutdown came at a particularly awkward time. However, we are nothing if not flexible and are working to reschedule the Used Book Sale and other fundraisers, so please watch for news of these important events. Yet, libraries abide, and

many programs and services are available despite library building closures. Please consider shopping the Scholastic Virtual Book Fair (see pg. 3), which will help bridge the gap until we get to our new normal. We all look forward to rolling up our sleeves again!
In service,
Denise Nordell



MEMBERSHIP REPORT

Stuck at Home? Don't forget your library!

With most of us staying home tending to the immediate needs of our family, friends, and neighbors, we have other things to worry about, rather than whether we've made a contribution to our favorite nonprofits this year! Unfortunately, Friends memberships in 2020 are down as a result.

Why is this a problem?

Historically, donations for membership have comprised about 28% of our annual budget, and without that income, we struggle to fund the requests made of us by library staff. When memberships are down, we hope that our fundraising efforts will make up the difference. But this spring, the Friends have necessarily postponed our planned, face-to-face fundraisers, and have no way of knowing when we may be able to reschedule. The result? A reduced budget and a reduced ability to serve the library.

What can you do?

1. If you have not renewed your Friends membership this year, please do so. It's easy online at <https://modestolibraryfriends.org/join/>

or you can use the membership form in this newsletter and mail it with a check. If you are able to give a little more this year, we hope you'll do so. We promise to be good stewards of your donation. Not sure if you've already renewed? Email me (Ellen) at membership@modestolibraryfriends.org and I'll let you know.

2. If you know people who appreciate the Modesto Library but are not members of the Friends, please encourage them to join. You might remind them of all the electronic resources available to them without ever having to step foot out of their homes (see Sarah Dentan's message in this issue).

3. If you are doing more online shopping these days, you can help the Friends raise money. Our organization participates in AmazonSmile and will receive a percentage of your purchase every time you shop with Amazon – at no cost to you. Details at <https://modestolibraryfriends.org/project/amazon-smile>

If you shop at a variety of online stores, please consider registering with iGive.com; details at <https://modestolibraryfriends.org/project/igive-com/>

4. If you usually shop at our Scholastic book sale in May, we have an alternative this year – a virtual Scholastic book fair (online, of course). Please buy books; it's good for the kids in your life and good for the Friends.

The library's physical location is closed for now, but we will continue raising money to meet the needs of the library and its devoted customers. Thank you for helping us in any way you can.

– Ellen Dambrosio, Membership Director

In memory of...

Kim Saugstad

Pat Glattke; Anne and George Britton

Jean Hannah

Anne and George Britton

Peter Finley

Anne and George Britton

And this...

Educator, book lover (his personal library contained over 12,000 books!) and lifelong reader **Jim Enochs** passed away in April. His family requests donations in his name be directed to the Stanislaus County Library.

USED BOOK SALE POSTPONED

The Friends of the Modesto Library annual Used Book Sale, our largest fundraiser, has been postponed. We hope to be able to set a date in early fall. The warehouse is well stocked, and our wonderful team of book sorters had been working up until early March.

The good news: The sale, when it happens, will offer a new and better experience for customers. Fiction books will be displayed by author and only books in very good condition will be offered for sale. As always, we have a wide selection available in many genres. Biography, the Civil War, WWII, History, Self-Help, Sports, Religion and, of course, many fiction books from the famous authors you all know and read.

We'll keep you posted and let you know as soon as we have a new date. We are not taking book donations at this time

– Pat Glattke, Book Sale Chair

Library Services Continue During Shutdown

County Librarian Sarah Dentan shares this update:

As you know, our Libraries closed the morning of Friday, March 20. Through the work of our leadership team and dedicated staff, we were able to begin to provide essential, modified services on Monday, March 23. While our Library facilities are closed to the public, our modified services include:

- Access to free eBooks, digital audiobooks, movies, magazines, and more from home. We have allocated additional funds to our virtual offerings to support increased demand during this time.
- Telephone reference services and assistance accessing virtual resources available at all locations.
- No-contact pickup of held materials at all locations. Holds can be placed online or over the phone.



- Continued Home Delivery of materials to homebound seniors.
- Giveaway books provided to Outreach partner sites including Adkison Elementary
- Virtual programming, including Story Time, a Chapter-a-Week book club in English and Spanish and Virtual Coding Club. See our Facebook Events page for details. <https://bit.ly/2RGwvos>
- Free online resources for fun and enrichment highlighted on our website: http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/free_eresources.kshmt
- "Ask A Librarian" hours on Facebook. <https://bit.ly/2ynDzjm>
- Updated information on our services on the web page here: <http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/>.
- And, through August 31, we have been given free access to TumbleBooks eBooks, audio books, videos, and more. A new page with access links for customers has been added to our website. The link is included in the E-Resources drop down menu, on the Free Online Resources page, and in an announcement on the home page.

We have received a number of questions on our building projects. Be assured, the Turlock and Empire building projects are continuing, as is the Modesto Maker Space building project.

As always, please get in touch if you have any questions or concerns, or if you'd like more details on any of these services or projects. I look forward to hearing from you!

With all my best wishes for you and your families,
– Sarah

VIRTUAL SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR MAY 4-17

Shop for books without leaving the house!

Instead of the traditional spring Scholastic book fair, Friends of the Modesto Library has teamed up with the popular Scholastic Store online to offer an all-new Virtual Book Fair experience where customers can shop exclusive titles, best-sellers, Raise-a-Reader sets, collections, and more.

Shoppers can take advantage of

- **free standard shipping** on book-only orders over \$25* and
- all orders **shipped to the location of your choice** (your house, grandma's, or a friend's ... a great option for gifting!)



Go to: www.scholastic.com/bf/foml

Your purchase means the Friends of the Modesto Library earns credit that will be used to support the mission of your Modesto Library. The sale continues through May; however, after May 17 our profit is lower.

Virtual Book Fair FAQs:

Are the books safe?

Scholastic implemented a series of preventative health and safety measures at warehouse and storage facilities across the country to keep everyone safe. CDC agrees that the risk of spread from packages is incredibly low because of the time it takes shipments to get from the warehouse (more than two days) to your door.

How long to receive the books?

3-10 days – and you can track the shipment.

**Items NOT eligible for free shipping may include Toys, Games, Arts & Crafts, large, overweight, or unusually shaped items, books and book sets containing non-book components*

Thank you for your continued support. Stay safe and healthy.

– Anne Britton, Scholastic Book Sale Chair

World of Wonky Felt

The World of Wonky Felt was shared with a basement full of families at the Library in February. Sara Lytle-Pinhey “felter extraordinaire” brought examples of the 3D vignettes she makes every day to fill a missing carpet square in her office in 10th St Place. Sara supplied felt boards and packets of supplies so that each child could cut their own creations and then take it all home and continue exploring the medium. Marilyn Drew, our volunteer contact, arranged for FOML to send three volunteers to hand out supplies, scissors and encouraging words.

Sara’s art installations can be enjoyed by following her Instagram account “wonky felt”. A short Modesto Bee video featuring Sarah is in its online archives. A tutorial for making a kit is available at wonkyfelt.com.

– Donna Flanders



BUT DO THEY HAVE LIBRARY CARDS?

When the Library's doors reopen, visitors will be greeted by a new aquarium in the lobby, thanks to the Friends of the Modesto Library. Modesto Library Supervisor Chris Moreno reports the new tank and stand were installed in April by Aquatic Rocks and Supply Company. Initially, the 180 gallon-tank will contain with about a dozen fish with new fish being added every three weeks or so until the tank is filled with a variety of colorful fish.

“...our future aquarium maintenance person, Kevin, grew up coming to the Modesto Library.”

Chris shared that one of the installers and our future aquarium maintenance person, Kevin, grew up coming to the Modesto Library. His parents were teachers and often brought him to the library for hours after school and over the summer. It was during this time that Kevin became intrigued with our fish tank and aquariums in general. He said he would sit in front of the fish tank and marvel at the idea of having his own one day. He checked out every book he could find on aquarium fish and did almost all his book reports on the subject. He started building and caring for his own fish tanks at 10 years old. He credits the library for catapulting him into an aquarist hobby and profession.



“The four Koi fish that were in the old tank have a new home in an outdoor 5,000 gallon Koi fish pond... AT KEVIN'S HOUSE!” said Chris. “The look of amazement and smile on Kevin's face when he walked into the library and told me his story was priceless and gave the feeling of completing a full circle.”

More Precious library memories...

FOML Board Member Marilyn Drew shared these photos from the '80s which she rediscovered recently during "Corona-Cleaning." Daughter Lara (age 8) and son Michael (5), proudly display their collections at the Modesto Library. Thanks, Marilyn!





1000 Books
Before Kindergarten

www.stanislauslibrary.org

FOML annual meeting recap/ new officers

In March, Friends of the Modesto Library held its annual membership meeting. President Denise Nordell offered a review of Friends activities and accomplishments, and guest speaker Dr. ChrisAnna Mink discussed the positive effects of reading to counter Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACE).



Two new board members, Judy Hererro and Judy Pierce were approved, and officers were elected to serve for 2020-21.

2020-21 Officers

Co-Presidents – Pat Glattke and Denise Nordell

Secretary – Anne Britton

Treasurer – Jonaca Driscoll

1000 BOOKS BEFORE KINDERGARTEN

How many words do you know?

How many should a child know before they start school?

You may not know the number, but you do know that more is better!

Parents are a child's first and best teacher, and the library has a simple at-home program to promote word building – and a number of other skills, too. 1000 Books Before Kindergarten began about ten years ago as a pilot program at Ceres Library by librarian Michelle Coxford as a way to promote early literacy. She modeled the program on the national organization <https://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org>. The other branches started soon after that with Modesto Library coordinating the program, which is designed for infants, toddlers, and preschool-aged children... and their parents and caregivers, of course.

Parents receive a packet of information when they sign up their children at any of the public libraries in the county. They note on a log every time a book is read. Yes, the same book, read over and over (and over and over) again is fine and counts every time! Children love repetition. Small prizes like a sticker or their name posted in the library is awarded for every 100 books read. Meeting the major milestone of 500 books gives another slightly larger award, currently a small tote bag. When a child has heard 1000 books, they are invited to the annual celebration for all who have reached that goal over the past year and they receive a special graduation prize.

Simple, but effective. A child who has read 1000 books before they start school understands more words, understands sequencing, is better able to hear sounds and connect them to letters, has increased concentration and discipline, and has improved imagination and creativity. Maybe more importantly, reading with a child develops a sense of intimacy and well-being while sharing a fun and enjoyable time together.

Assistant librarian Angélica Ruíz Maté, program coordinator, reported that last year 131 children enrolled in 2019 at Modesto Library out of 310 enrolled countywide. There are about 40 currently signed up for 2020 in Modesto and system-wide about 70. Presently funded by Stanislaus Library Foundation, various Friends groups including Friends of the Modesto Library have also contributed.

The parent packets include a copy of suggested "Books Your Child Should Hear Before Kindergarten" as well as resources and links to helpful book lists for different ages:

- <https://1000booksbeforekindergarten.org/wp-content/uploads/books-your-child-should-hear-before-kindergarten.pdf>
- http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/pdf/booklists/baby_read_to_me.pdf
- http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/pdf/booklists/toddlers_read_to_me.pdf
- http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/pdf/booklists/preschool_read_to_me.pdf

Children's Department staffers say, "Our goal is to have children build the Early Literacy Skills they will need to have success in school. We hope that it instills a love of reading. We want families to create a bond and a support system for their children in order for them to be successful in school and later in life. For families to continue to come to the libraries for years to come." Contact them at (209) 558-7810 for more information.

Libraries Respond to COVID-19

In response to the COVID-19 crisis, the Public Library Association (PLA) surveyed the public library community to understand the immediate impacts the crisis is having on their operations, staffing, programs and services. Over 2,500 unique library systems responded to the survey, representing a nearly 30% response rate.

More information about the survey, including the full set of questions, can be found at www.ala.org/pla/issues/covid-19/surveyoverview. Discover how libraries are responding to the current crisis by [viewing the summary report](#) (PDF).

survey highlights

While most libraries (98%) reported building closures to some extent, a substantial majority of respondents reported that, in response to COVID-19, they have continued, expanded or added services such as:

- online renewal policies (76%);
- online services like e-books and streaming media (74%); and
- virtual programming (61%).
- 21% are providing non-COVID online resources (activities to do at home, unemployment resources)
- 21% are expanding access to services (e-cards, deaf/blind/disabled expanded options, fine forgiveness, upping checkout limits, providing online assistance)
- 17% are distributing library materials (free craft supplies, kits for various activities such as games and STEM, mailing items)
- 13% are providing technology (laptop and hotspot checkout, expanding Wi-Fi, print/scan/copy/fax services)
- 12% are using makerspace equipment to create medical supplies

More than 80% of respondents report they left on their public Wi-Fi access when the library building was closed before the COVID-19 crisis, and 12% have added or expanded this service since the crisis began.

Library staff are taking other innovative steps to adapt and respond to community needs.

Data collected March 24–April 1, 2020

Join the Friends Today!

Friends of the Modesto Library provides funds to enhance the programs and services at the Modesto Library. Dues are paid on a calendar-year basis (Jan. 1-Dec. 31). Please select a membership level and indicate the amount of your donation.

Name(s) _____

Address _____

City/ZIP _____

Phone _____

Email _____

Thank you for giving us your email. It reduces our expenses and lets us keep in touch.

We publish the names of new members in our quarterly newsletter. If you prefer your name NOT be printed, please check this box .

Join FOML:

New Member Renewing Member

Returning Member

Sign me up for

Reader (\$25 - \$49) \$ _____

Storyteller (\$50 - \$99) \$ _____

Novelist (\$100 - \$249) \$ _____

Bestseller (\$250 - \$499) \$ _____

Classic (\$500 - \$999) \$ _____

Epic (\$1,000 and above) \$ _____

Method of payment: cash check # _____

If paying by check, make payable to FOML. Provide information on form, then mail to:

Friends of the Modesto Library

PO Box 4565

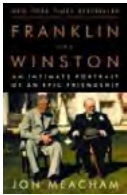
Modesto, CA 95352-4565

You can also go to modestolibraryfriends.org/join US to pay with PayPal or a credit card.



WHAT ARE YOU READING DURING THE SHUTDOWN?

Let us know at info@modestolibraryfriends.org



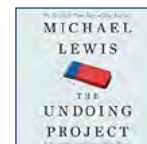
I'm reading "Franklin and Winston" by Jon Meacham. It details the friendship and leadership they had prior to and during WWII. I'm also reading "The Rule of Law" by John Lescroart. - Beverly Schlegel

The Giver of Stars by Jojo Moyes is very popular now, and I can see why. It is an exciting story of five remarkable Kentucky women who deliver books for the Packhorse Librarian project during the Depression. We see their challenges, as well as how the job impacts their personal lives and the community they serve. – Jean Haven



Give People Money: How a Universal Basic Income Would End Poverty, Revolutionize Work, and Remake the World by Annie Lowrey. The title pretty much says it all. This book is an exploration of how a UBI could help address three problems in society—disruptive changes in the labor market, persistent poverty, and race and gender biases in the existing income support regime. – Ellen Dambrosio

The Undoing Project: A Friendship That Changed Our Minds by Michael Lewis. While looking at an unlikely partnership, this reflects on the impact of their studies that undo assumptions about the decision-making process and the influence it has had on evidence-based regulation. You may never trust your "gut" again! – Anne Britton



I am reading some books by the author Jane Harper. I am delighted to have found a modern author who writes extremely well and actually tells a story with an ending! I first read "The Lost Man" and now I am reading "The Dry." Both books describe life in the outback area of eastern Australia. I highly recommend this author. – Jonaca Driscoll