

## A Library Tale

**I**t All Started with Snacks. Sometimes a snack does make a difference. Once upon a time, Youth Outreach Librarian Olga Cardenas approached the Friends of the Modesto Library with a request for money to provide snacks and book club materials at the Juvenile Detention Center where she was starting a book club. Yes, the snacks probably got the young people coming to book club, but now they come for snacks and books!

About 95 teens, boys and girls ages 13-19, participate. Every week at least one teen mentions how he was not a reader before book club or shares how much book club means to him or her. (Snacks often get a mention as well!) Olga says the book club is so much more than reading. It provides the motivation for behavior modification so they can attend book club. Reading also helps them become critical thinkers, which is so important to more life-changing behavior modification.

Then a few people, including some FOML members (Jonaca Driscoll, Cathie Peck, Anne Britton, Michael Leamy and Amanda Hughes of Stanislaus Reads), said, "Let's nominate Olga for the national I Love My Librarian award!" Before you know it, Olga was named one of 11 Librarians of the Year in the United States and was awarded \$5,000. Olga generously donated her award to start a library at the center. Others took note of the project and soon there was a \$7,500 grant from Modesto Toyota and then another \$7,500 from the Toyota Corporation to help with the project. The Stanislaus Library Foundation administers the funds under an account called Library for Incarcerated Youths.

The library opened in July with a wide range of materials from picture books to classics, fiction and nonfiction. Because of the center's safety restrictions, only paperback books are being stocked. The average reading level is fifth grade, but the books reflect all reading levels. The youngsters especially enjoy series such as the Legend trilogy by Marie Lu and Unwind Dystology by Neal Schusterman. These books often have characters the teens can relate to emotionally.

Helping out with the book club are FOML members Jonaca Driscoll and Pete Finley. Different formats are used based on interest and reading level. Volunteering to read aloud during the club is encouraged, something that might take weeks before many of the participants are ready to do. Discussion is always on the agenda.

So sometimes great things do start with a snack and of course Olga's great idea a book club for incarcerated youth!—Maree Hawkins



*Olga Cardenas is all smiles at the recent celebration for the Juvenile Hall library.*

This newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of the Modesto Library. Copies may be requested by emailing [info@modestolibraryfriends.org](mailto:info@modestolibraryfriends.org)

The Friends of the Modesto Library is a 501(c)(3) nonprofit registered in California. All contributions are tax-deductible as allowed by law. (ID#77-0038333)

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 at 6:00 p.m. in the Library Conference Room and are open to all members or interested individuals.

**Mail:**

FOML  
Modesto Library  
1500 I Street  
Modesto, CA 95354

**Online:**

[www.ModestoLibraryFriends.org](http://www.ModestoLibraryFriends.org)

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**ditto**

**for printing our  
newsletter**

## FROM THE PRESIDENT

Penned while trying to beat the heat and reading *Lillian Boxfish Takes a Walk* by Kathleen Rooney.

We send buckets of good wishes to Modesto Library Supervisor Michael Leamy as he begins a new job with the MJC Library this month. We have very much enjoyed working with Michael in his role as FOML liaison. Taking over the job is Chris Moreno. Welcome, Chris!

Despite the heat, this month is when the "Say Yes to S!" library tax renewal campaign officially begins. Help is needed. For more information, please visit the campaign's website: [savestanislauslibraries.org](http://savestanislauslibraries.org).

Once again, our volunteers deserve a standing ovation. The used and new book sales this spring, coordinated by Pat Glatcke and Anne Britton, respectively, were very successful thanks to all of you who helped out plus great organizing by Anne and Pat.

Volunteers also provided a helping hand for author Rosemary Wells's successful visit in April, during Dia de Los Libros activities. They also placed stickers in books for the County Fair giveaway and helped out with the system-wide RFID tracking project. That project ensures that every piece of material in the

# LOVE

the LIBRARY

county library system is tagged for inventory and loss prevention.

Thank you for being a FOML member. Your support, whether it is financial or a financial-volunteer combo, makes a difference. I encourage you to recruit new members, our easiest way of fundraising. All you have to do is send out an email to your friends. I guarantee you that a couple of them will join.

Stay cool!—Maree Hawkins, Co-president

P.S. I thought *Lillian Boxfish Takes A Walk* was delightful. Since I know there is a bit of Lillian in me, I wonder what my walks around Modesto will be like when I'm 85.

## Friends Board Approves 2017-18 Budget

At the June meeting, the FOML board approved an optimistic but achievable budget, calling for \$16,000 for purchasing books and other materials, as well as programs for the Modesto Library.

The budget also provides a sizable donation to the "Yes on S" campaign. As you know, the Friends of the Modesto Library strongly supports Measure S – Say Yes to S to Save Stanislaus Libraries. As a non-profit organization, we are limited as to the amount we can give to any political campaign. Nevertheless, the budget also provides the maximum allowable donation to the library tax campaign. FOML has donated to the campaign each and every year and we're proud to demonstrate our commitment to the Library again this year.

Now, we need to make it happen! A budget is just a roadmap; we need feet on the ground and all hands on deck to make the budget a reality. Please say "yes" when you are asked to do your part to support FOML!

-- Denise Nordell, Co-president



# Meet Chris Moreno, New Modesto Library Supervisor

They say every cloud has a silver lining. Our “cloud” darkened the sky recently when we learned that Michael Leamy, longtime Modesto Library Manager, had accepted a new position at Modesto Junior College Library, effective August 1.

Our “silver lining” is the good news that Chris Moreno, who has been with the library since 2014 in dual roles with Reference and Collection Services, has been promoted to the position of Library Supervisor, and will be taking over as liaison with the Friends of the Modesto Library.

As Modesto Library Supervisor-Librarian III, Chris will be supervising the day-to-day operations of the Modesto Library’s public service departments—Reference, Children’s, and Circulation. As you would expect, Chris is a big believer in libraries and their relevance in today’s world. “It’s true, many people may no longer need to come to the library and check out an Almanac to get confirmation of an obscure fact,” he says. “However, I like to remind them that libraries are not just a repository of books. They provide a public space open to everyone in the community. Free Wi-Fi, public computers and printers, scanning stations, and free access to numerous e-resources help bridge the digital divide and promote civic engagement. Library programming, story-time, summer reading contests, Maker Spaces, and computer classes promote literacy and free education. These programs have become indispensable to both parents and children.”

A library supervisor’s job has both challenges



*Michael Leamy, left and Chris Moreno*

and rewards. The upside: “I like the feeling that I am part of a public service that I truly believe is making a difference,” says Chris. As far as challenges in the form of opportunities: “I think the biggest challenge is communicating and implementing change in such a large organization with overlapping departments. The library is consistently evolving and trying to improve upon the services we offer. It’s rewarding to see those changes come to fruition.”

A Modesto native (and Harry Potter look-alike in his younger years—be sure to ask him about it!), Chris attended CSU Stanislaus as an undergraduate, with a major in History, then went on to earn his Master’s degree in Library and Information Science from San Jose State University. Chris and his wife have a 4-month-old daughter which, as he says, “gives me a whole new appreciation and admiration for those who are good at story-time!”

# Memberships down from last year; *have you renewed?*

I like to think of The Friends of the Modesto Library as the library’s fan club. Members sing its praises throughout the community. They raise money to fund the numerous requests received each quarter from the staff. They volunteer at library events on the premises, around the city, and beyond. They make a difference!

But this fan club doesn’t have as many active members now as it did at the end of 2016. We need your help! If you haven’t yet renewed, please do so today. A membership form can be found on page X. If you’ve already renewed—thank you! Maybe you’d be willing to approach other like-minded friends or neighbors and ask them to consider supporting the library by joining the Friends. You probably know a lot of people who are a fan of the library but, for whatever reason, are not officially Friends yet. Let’s get them signed up!

You may not know, but approximately 25% of our annual income comes from membership dues and the extra donations people make when they sign up or renew. The more members we have, the more money we can give to the Modesto Library—one of our city’s treasures.

If you’re unsure whether you renewed this year, please email Ellen at [membership@modestolibraryfriends.org](mailto:membership@modestolibraryfriends.org). Or send a note to PO Box 4565, Modesto CA 95352.

—Ellen Dambrosio

## *Join Friends of the Modesto Library!*

Sign up here or go to [modestolibraryfriends.org](http://modestolibraryfriends.org) to sign up online and pay with PayPal.

Name(s) \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

City/ZIP \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

Email: \_\_\_\_\_

Today’s date: \_\_\_\_\_

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

Join FOML:

I am a \_\_\_ new member \_\_\_ renewing member \_\_\_ returning member

Sign me up for

- Student membership \$ 5
- Individual membership \$ 15
- Family membership \$ 25
- Business membership \$ 100
- Patron membership \$ 200
- Additional donation of \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Total: \$ \_\_\_\_\_



Method of payment: \_\_\_ cash \_\_\_ check # \_\_\_\_\_

Make checks payable to FOML. Mail this form and your check to: Friends of the Modesto library, 1500 I St., Modesto, CA 95354 or leave them in the library’s administrative office. Have a question about your membership? Email membership questions to: [membership@modestolibraryfriends.org](mailto:membership@modestolibraryfriends.org).

The Stanislaus Library Foundation  
invites you to the

## Authors Garden Gala

Young Minds + Libraries  
= Our Future

Saturday, September 23, 2017

## Authors Garden Gala benefits all county libraries

The Stanislaus Library Foundation hopes you will save September 23 for the Authors Garden Gala, a fundraiser benefitting Foundation programs that encourage children, teen and adults to read. Proceeds from the Gala benefit all 13 libraries in Stanislaus County.

This year's Gala theme is "Young Minds + Libraries = Our Future." The guest author is Modestan Juliana Presto. Juliana, a junior at Enochs High School, will publish her third book this fall. Her *Fire & Ice* trilogy is in the young adult/science fiction genre, but readership spans from fifth graders to adults.

Tickets are \$125 per person. The event, which will be held in the garden of Kent and Ginger Johnson, features a social hour, dinner and gourmet dessert auction.

Information on purchasing tickets can be found on the Foundation's web site, [www.stanislauslibraryfoundation.org](http://www.stanislauslibraryfoundation.org) or contact Maree Hawkins at [mareehawkins@comcast.net](mailto:mareehawkins@comcast.net) or 529-1517 for an invitation.

## Mensa for Kids' Excellence in Reading Program

Are you looking for some good books to read with the children in your life or books they can read on their own? I've stumbled on a fun new source of book lists--Mensa for Kids.

To encourage the joy of reading, the Mensa Foundation has developed the free Mensa for Kids Excellence in Reading Program. Children do not need to be members of Mensa for Kids to participate.

It's easy. Children (and an adult depending on the child's age) select a list from the grade level list. Regardless of age or grade level, the child should read at ability level. Print the appropriate list and track each book read by checking it off and recording the date it was read, along with a rating (from 1 to 5 stars). Submit the original form used, even if it is very messy.

Once an entire list has been completed, both the reader and an adult will need to sign the list as verification, returning it and the order form to the Mensa Foundation. When they have received the signed list and verified it, they will send a recognition certificate and T-shirt.

For the grade level reading lists (kindergarten through 12<sup>th</sup> grade), go to <http://mensaforkids.org> and click the Excellence in Reading graphic. Also

explore A Year of Living Poetically which encourages kids to memorize a select list of twelve poems in the coming year.

Readers can read books themselves, listen to audiobooks, or have books read to them by a family member or even their teacher.

Each of the lists contains high quality titles. Some are classics written decades ago while others are more contemporary. As I write this, my 7-year-old grandson and I have been reading from the K-3 list. It has been a pleasure to reread some favorites of ours as well as to explore titles we had overlooked on previous trips to the library.

It will take us months to get through the list, but we're in no hurry. My grandson is excited that he'll earn a certificate in recognition of his achievement and get an Excellence in Reading T-shirt, too!  
—Ellen Dambrosio



## Teen Craft Fair A Success

The 2017 All-Teen Craft Fair was held June before Father's Day. Library Assistant Michele Machado summed it up in one word: Awesome!

The annual sale offered everything from art and jewelry to plants and wearable items -- all made and sold by teens aged 13-18. Teen entrepreneurs filled 28 tables on the East Portico with craft items, generally going for under \$10. The event let individual crafters learn about pricing, advertising, dealing with customers, handling money and other aspects of being an entrepreneur.

I bought beautifully decorated butterfly note cards, trinkets for grandkids and stocked up on birthday gifts for friends. Be sure to check out this annual event next year. If you can't wait a year, try the All-Kids Craft Fair this October.—Anne Britton



*A teen crafter helps a young buyer at the June Teen Craft Fair.*

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## One door closes, another may open

The Little Shop closed in April, but replacement fundraising opportunities are under discussion.

The Little Shop opened in 2010 to provide funds and visibility for the Friends. The shop earned about \$1,000 a year for the first three years then about \$500 a year, all thanks to the efforts of the many volunteers who managed and

staffed it over the years. The shop closed in April because the library needed the space for an office.

How do we replace those funds? Following a meeting to tie up loose ends, it was recommended to the board that a small committee work this summer to explore options and give a recommendation as to whether the Friends get into the retail

business again. The committee—Cande Brode, Anne Britton, Maree Hawkins, Pam Pallios and Cathie Peck—will have a report for the September board meeting. There may be the possibility of retail space in the library in the future, but for now the goal is to replace the money the shop would have brought in with another fundraiser. —Maree Hawkins



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## “Yes on S” Campaign Headquarters Open for Business! *Volunteers needed for campaign efforts*



**SAVE OUR LIBRARIES WITH NO NEW TAXES**

The Measure S - “Say Yes to S!” office at 1216 I Street opened with a gala celebration on Aug. 5. The office, which is located just two blocks from the Modesto Library, is open Tuesday through Saturday. Volunteers are needed.

Can you walk a precinct or make phone calls to talk with voters about the importance of Measure S? Can you display a yard sign at your home or business? How about helping with clerical tasks at the office?

Please say “Yes!” to helping with Measure S.

To volunteer, contact Denise Nordell at (209) 765-6388 or [dnordell@sbcglobal.net](mailto:dnordell@sbcglobal.net).

# Affinity programs are “easy money” for FOML

Grocery store affinity programs have provided FOML with a steady revenue stream (over \$17,000 since 2009). One store though, Raley’s, has just refreshed its program and will no longer be giving to non-profits such as FOML. Instead the corporation will focus on grants for K-12 schools in the areas of food literacy, sustainability and wellness.

The good news is that we can still earn money from Save Mart, Lucky, FoodMaxx, and O’Brien’s (and Lucky’s in the Bay Area) affinity programs.

## Here’s how to sign up:

- Make sure you are registered with the grocery store reward programs.
- Register at eScrip.com so these stores will pay the Friends every time you shop. Provide eScrip with the phone number you enter when you shop at each participating grocery store.
- And, of course, remember to name Friends of the Modesto Library as the recipient of the store donations.

This cost you nothing and it’s the easiest money our organization makes. Invite your family and friends to sign up as well. Participants do not have to be Friends members to help us earn money when they buy their groceries. For more details, go to [https://sites.google.com/a/modestolibraryfriends.org/www/grocery/escrip\\_info](https://sites.google.com/a/modestolibraryfriends.org/www/grocery/escrip_info). Are you an online shopper? eScrip will also pay the Friends when you shop online at hundreds of participating stores in the eScrip online mall.  
–Ellen Dambrosio

## The Joys of Suspended Sentences!

Sometimes the summer feels like suspended animation: Outside with family/kids/grandkids in the nice weather; or off to cooler climes to visit or tour all those places we favor or always wanted to see. Every summer my reading list gets longer than the time available to read. My solution? Suspended sentences!

You probably knew you could place a hold on the books you want to read. Even do it from home on your computer. Did you know you could then “suspend” that reservation to be activated at a later date? You set the date. Change it anytime up to the date it activates: more delay or less as you need. The best part is that it maintains your place in the queue, until there is time to read. You can re-activate to start the hold process any time. Another great option from the library: Suspended sentences! –Anne Britton



Now you can get that one missing title from the book series that you wanted to read, even if it is not part of the Stanislaus County Library’s Collection!

LINK+ is a free service for anyone with a library card from our system. You can borrow books from participating California and Nevada libraries for three weeks and books on CDs and DVDs for 7 days. Late fines are higher, though: \$1 per item, per day.

For full information go to:

[http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/linkplus\\_information.shtm](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org/linkplus_information.shtm) or pick up a flyer from the library or call 209-558-7808.

## Millennials visit libraries!

A fall 2106 survey by Pew Research Center found millennials (18-35) were the generation most likely to have visited a public library in the past year.

- 53% of millennials said they had used a public library (public, not university or school library) or bookmobile within the past year.
- Gen Xers (ages 36-51): 45%
- Baby Boomers (ages 52-70): 43%
- The Silent Generation (ages 71-88): 36%.
- Millennials are most likely to use library websites (four in ten, versus 24% of Boomers).

The Pew Research Center said relatively high public library use could be due to changes that many public libraries have undergone in the last 20 years, such as extensive public use of computer and internet

connections at libraries, and how interested millennials are in extra services such as literacy programs for young children, meeting spaces for community groups and technology “petting zoos” that provide opportunities to explore 3-D printers and other tech gadgetry.

Other survey tidbits:

- Women are more likely than men to say they visited a public library or bookmobile in the past 12 months (54% vs. 39%) and more likely to use library websites (37% vs. 24%).
- College graduates are more likely than those who education ended with a high school diploma to use libraries or bookmobiles in the past 23 months (56% vs. 40%).
- Parents of minor children are more likely than non-parents to have used a library in the past 12 months (54% vs. 43%).

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# EVENTS

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## AUGUST

*Weds. Aug.-Nov, 3:30 p.m.*

LEGO Play Children ages 4-18 can build LEGO displays for the library while developing fine motor skills. Children under 4 welcome, but must have direct adult supervision.

*Aug. 1 - Sept 16*

Anime Day Bookmark Contest Ages 10-18 will find entry form and rules available in the Children's Room for the Anime Day Bookmark Contest. Read the rules, draw an original anime themed bookmark design and submit it to any Stanislaus County Library branch. The winner will be announced Sat., Oct. 7.

*Sat., Aug. 5, 12:30-4 p.m.*

Scrapbooking Fun. Learn about and practice scrapbooking with scrapbookers of all levels. Some materials provided, but also bring your own.

*Fri., Aug. 18, 2-4 p.m.*

Pokémon Day! Catch 'em all during our Pokémon scavenger hunt and crafts in the Children's Room.

*Sat, Aug. 19, 1 p.m.*

Saturday Stories and Art. Free art program for the family. Each program features a picture book and a related art project. Participants will create artwork to take home while using a variety of mediums and techniques to explore an art concept. All ages welcome. Children under 5 must be accompanied by an adult.

*Mon., Aug. 21-Sat., Aug. 26.*

Coloring Week. All ages. Visit the coloring table on the Main Floor anytime this week to color the giant coloring sheet. Stop by the children's room or reference desk to borrow coloring pencils and crayons.

*Mon, Aug, 2, 9:45 - 10:45 a.m.*

Solar Eclipse on Modesto Library Front Steps Join us to safely observe a total solar eclipse, the first visible in the United States since March 1979.

*Fri., Aug. 25, 3:30 p.m.*

Minute to Win It! Test your skills in "Minute to Win It" timed activities. Best for ages 8 and up but all ages are welcome.

*Sat., Aug. 26, 1-3 p.m.*

The MoSt Summer Poetry Workshops - Delving into a Different Self: Persona Poetry with Linda Scheller. Join Modesto-Stanislaus Poetry Center (MoSt), the Modesto Library and local poet Linda Scheller, author of a recently published collection of persona poems, who will lead the participants to read, discuss, and write persona poetry. More information: (209) 558-7814.

*Thur., Aug. 31, 4 p.m.*

Modesto Comix Club Hang out in the Children's Department and explore the world of Pokémon manga with discussions, games, and activities. Suggested for ages 8 and up.



## SEPTEMBER

*Sept. 1-30*

All-Kids Craft Fair Sign-ups Young crafters ages 7-14 will find entry forms and rules in the Children's Room. At the Oct. 16 event they can showcase their talents and learn about sales, customer service and business, while having fun!

*Sat., Sept. 9, 1 p.m.*

Saturday Stories and Art. [See August 19 above.]

*Sat., Sept. 16, 12:30-4 p.m.*

Scrapbooking Fun. Learn about and practice scrapbooking with scrapbookers of all levels. Some materials provided, but also bring your own.

*Saturday, Sept. 23, 1-3 p.m.*

The MoSt Summer Poetry Workshops - Blackout and Erasure Poetry with Stella Beratlis. Join Modesto-Stanislaus Poetry Center (MoSt), Modesto Poet Laureate Stella Beratlis, and the Modesto Library for this month's poetry workshop. For more information: (209) 558-7814.

*Sat., Sept. 23*

Author Garden Gala See article page 4.

*Sat., Oct. 7, 1 p.m.*

Saturday Stories and Art. [See Aug. 19 above.]

## OCTOBER

*Oct, 8-14*

Teen Read Week

*Sat., Oct. 14,, 9 a.m.-noon*

All Kids Craft Fair. East Portico. [Sign up Sept. 1-30 in the Children's Room.] Come support our young entrepreneurs ages 7-14 as they sell their crafts!

*Saturday, Oct. 14, 1-3 p.m.*

The MoSt Summer Poetry Workshops - Sharing the Common Amazement. Join Modesto-Stanislaus Poetry Center (MoSt), local poets Linda Toren and Gary Thomas, and the Modesto Library for this month's poetry workshop. For more information: (209) 558-7814.

*October date TBA*

Halloween Storytime and Costume Parade. Come for the special holiday story time and stay to parade your costume through the library treat stations. Check the library website for date and time. Sponsored by Friends of the Modesto Library.

## PLANNING AHEAD

*Nov. 8, 9 & 11* Scholastic Book Fair Mark your calendars to "Saddle Up and Read" at the Friends of the Modesto Library fall fundraiser with new high-quality, low-cost new books for children and teens.

**All programs held in the Modesto Library Auditorium, unless otherwise noted. Dates are subject to change. More programs to be announced. Visit [www.stanislauslibrary.org](http://www.stanislauslibrary.org) and click on Events and Classes for information about all of the great the library has planned.**

## QUICK STARTS

### FIRST SENTENCES FROM SELECTIONS IN THE NEW BOOKS AREA

*When the baritone finally came to the end of his song, I could sense the tension slipping from every shoulder in the room.*

*-From "A Measure of Murder" by Leslie Karst*

*Phil's first thought when the bullet hit him was Oh, come on.*

*-From "The Skill of Our Hands" by Steven Brust and Skyler White*

*Don't pick up don't pick up don't pick up.*

*-From "The Night She Won Miss America" by Michael Callahan*

*Emma always took a second look at any vessel that flew the Canadian flag from its stern.*

*-From "This Was a Man" by Jeffrey Archer*

*The tip of the fingernail file etches a groove into the laminated surface of the school desk in a less than satisfactory way.*

*-From "Two Good Dogs" by Susan Wilson*

*"You have to see the libraries they have here," said Nikolai.*

*-From "March 2017" by Will Englund*