

Pages from the Past

By Maree Hawkins



Library pages are an essential part of the library's operation.

Modesto Library Manager and former Library page Chris Moreno calls library pages "the unsung heroes of the library" and valuable members of the library system. Library pages are the employees you see sorting and shelving materials (they know the alphabet and Dewey Decimal System really well), as well as checking in books, retrieving library materials, answering phones and even helping Reference and Children's staff with programs.

There are currently 20 pages at the Modesto Library and 32 system-wide. Although it is an entry level position, it can lead elsewhere. Many use the position as a springboard to promotion within or to work on an undergraduate degree. Others just love the satisfaction that comes with working in a library. Chris acknowledges that it was that job that sparked the idea that working in a library is a noble career choice, leading him to earn a master's degree in Library Science and his current job.

Camille Lear, a Modesto Library Assistant, says, "Our pages exude their love of the library. Not only are they smart, organized and personable, they care about being efficient and timely. Most of all...they care about our beloved books."

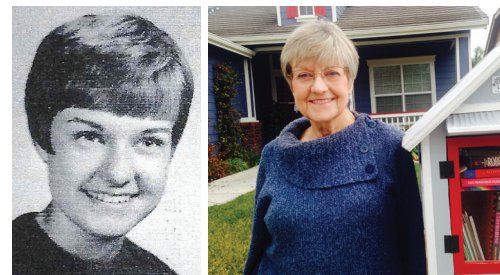
Debi Catramis, also a Library Assistant, adds, "Our library pages are awesome. I believe we could not uphold the level of customer service without everything the pages do."

Kathy Collins, of Modesto, worked as a page in her mid-forties for two years. She says it was a dream job since this was the library she and her family had frequented for years. "I enjoyed being around other families exploring books." She also enjoyed organizing books and movies, shelving them and making sure they were in the right place, especially after the little ones had looked through them. She recalls the warm and friendly atmosphere in the children's department and how the staff always had welcoming smiles and genuinely cared for others.

Friends member Julie Reuben was a page for two years in the mid-'60s in Tallmadge, Ohio. She recalls that she liked working with the public and being surrounded by books. Julie says the job taught her skills that were valuable in college and her professional life. She taught high school and junior high English and journalism before working for the Stanislaus County Library for 10 years, in Cataloging and Reference, then at the CSU Stanislaus Library as Interlibrary Loan Coordinator for over 20 years, retiring in 2017.

Friends President Denise Nordell worked as a page at the Modesto Library in the mid-'70s while attending Modesto Junior College. Denise loved the books and the people she met at the library while shelving books, typing overdue notices and working at the circulation desk. Her library job led her to a more than 30-year career with The Modesto and Sacramento Bees. How's that? Her library job was on the Proposition 13 "cut list." Someone she worked with casually mentioned, "Have you ever thought about working at The Modesto Bee?" So, Denise marched right down the street to The Bee, applied for a job and went to work in the Advertising Department.

Mary Beth Gish, now a Library Technician at the MJC



FOML member Julie Reuben worked as a library page in Ohio during the 1960s.

Library, spent three years in her mid-to-late teens as Modesto Library page. Mary Beth loved the books and the friends she made there and admits that since she loves bringing order out of chaos, shelving books was never a hardship. Besides, she was surrounded by a constant supply of intriguing books to read. The job also broadened her horizons by exposing her to a wide variety of people and the mix of cultures that use the library. As part of her MJC Library job, she trains college students about library work.



FUN FACT

Former Modesto Library Page Marcella Arguello (2002-2006) has developed a successful career as a stand-up comedian, writer, and actress. Arguello, who appeared at the Gallo Center in January, apparently doesn't draw upon her library experience for her current career.

See related story, "Library Love," on page 3

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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.

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Many thanks to



**for printing our
newsletter**

FROM THE PRESIDENT

Dear Friends,

Why do we Friends do what we do?

One reason is, we believe strongly that a vibrant, healthy library is a necessary requirement for a vibrant, healthy community. Throughout this newsletter, you will find examples of the fun, informative, inspiring and educational programs and activities that take place regularly at our Modesto Library. I predict many of you will nod your heads in agreement as you read "Why Libraries Still Matter," and will be impressed by the statistics in the Library's annual report, *Download the full report at www.stanislauslibrary.org/pdf/annualreport17-18.pdf*



programs, volunteers fuel the machine that is the Friends of the Modesto Library. Join us!

Denise Nordell
President

which demonstrates that our beloved library continues to meet the needs of an evolving community.

As Spring approaches there are many, many opportunities for YOU to become involved. From book sales to assisting at library

Library Staff Profile

Say Hello! to Annie Snell, Youth Service Outreach Librarian

Annie Snell joined the Youth Outreach team in October 2018, when Olga Cardenas became Library Manager at the Ceres branch. We asked Annie to share a little about herself and her new role.

When did you start work at the library, Annie?

Well, I began this job on October 22, 2018, but actually my first library job was here at the Stanislaus County Library back in 2006. I started as a sub/Library Assistant and loved it. I immediately made the decision to attend Library school.

Where did you work before?

I worked with San Mateo County Library (SMCL) from 2010 to 2014. I was initially hired as a library aide working at the Atherton Library and shortly after was promoted to Library assistant where I worked at the Foster City, Brisbane, Portola Valley, Woodside and Atherton Libraries. I was hired with Palo Alto City Library in 2011 (until 2014) as a Library Clerk working at the Downtown branch. In the meantime, I graduated with my MLIS degree in 2013. I was hired in 2014 with Hayward Public Library (HPL) as a full-time Youth Service Librarian. I stayed with HPL until October of 2018.

How does your job interface with other positions at the Library?

As a member of a pretty large team, my position interfaces with other positions in the library like a puzzle: All pieces are necessary to get the job done. I believe progress and results can be better achieved when working as a team.

What do you enjoy/like about your position?

I enjoy helping the community. It is rewarding when you do story time or give a free book to a child to take home; the happy look on a child's face is priceless.

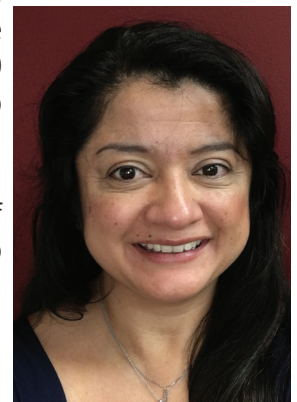
What are some things you would like people to know about upcoming youth outreach programs or projects?

Right now, we are focused on continuing the momentum we've established in our community and expand our services to those we haven't yet had the opportunity to collaborate with.

A little about you... family? hobbies? home town? pets?

My family consists of my husband, our 19-month-old daughter and two hefty cats. I love spending time with my daughter, reading and anything related to art, photography or food. I was born at Stanford and spent the first nine years of my life all over the Bay Area: Sunnyvale, San Jose, Cupertino, and Santa Clara.

My parents bought a home in Modesto when I was 10 years old. I moved back to the Bay Area in 2009 and now I am back again. I am excited to be a part of SCL and I look forward to building connections with the community.



Why Libraries Still Matter

By Eric Klinenberg, The New York Times

Is the public library obsolete?

A lot of powerful forces in society seem to think so. In recent years, declines in the circulation of bound books in some parts of the country have led prominent critics to argue that libraries are no longer serving their historical function. Countless elected officials insist that in the 21st century — when so many books are digitized, so much public culture exists online and so often people interact virtually — libraries no longer need the support they once commanded.

Libraries are already starved for resources. In some cities, even affluent ones like Atlanta, entire branches are being shut down. In San Jose, Calif., just down the road from Facebook, Google and Apple, the public library budget is so tight that users with overdue fees above \$20 aren't allowed to borrow books or use computers."

[During] "... a year doing ethnographic research in libraries in New York City. Again and again, I was reminded how essential libraries are, not only for a neighborhood's vitality but also for helping to address all manner of personal problems.

...In many neighborhoods, particularly those where young people aren't hyper-scheduled in formal after-school programs, libraries are highly popular among adolescents and teenagers who want to spend time with other people their age. One reason is that they're open,

accessible and free. Another is that the library staff members welcome them; in many branches, they even assign areas for teenagers to be with one another....

This is not to say that libraries are always peaceful and serene. During the time I spent doing research, I witnessed a handful of heated disputes, physical altercations and other uncomfortable situations, sometimes involving people who appeared to be mentally ill or under the influence of drugs. But such problems are inevitable in a public institution that's dedicated to open access, especially when drug clinics, homeless shelters and food banks routinely turn away — and often refer to the library! — those who most need help. What's remarkable is how rarely these disruptions happen, how civilly they are managed and how quickly a library regains its rhythm afterward.

The openness and diversity that flourish in neighborhood libraries were once a hallmark of urban culture. But that has changed. Though American cities are growing more ethnically, racially and culturally diverse, they too often remain divided and unequal, with some neighborhoods cutting themselves off from difference — sometimes intentionally, sometimes just by dint of rising costs — particularly when it comes to race and social class."

(Excerpt only, read the full column at: <https://nyti.ms/2QhorZ1>)

Library Love Runs in This Family

I've always considered being a library page as my first "real job." It was 1965 and I was 16 years old. Part of the lure was the money (a whopping \$1.05 per hour!) which was much better than 50 cents an hour I earned babysitting. The real draw though was that the job combined my love of books and children. I spent about three years as a page in the Modesto Library Children's Department, downstairs in what is now the McHenry Museum.

I recently found an essay that I wrote a few years after getting that job. My duties were to help check out books, put away the books, keep the books straight on the shelves, send out overdue notices, mend books, and help children find books. I even noted that the best reward of the job was the look upon a child's face when he received his first library card or a child's enthusiasm for a book she's just discovered.

I always thought that if my career in journalism didn't work out, then library science was my next choice. While I never pursued a library career, my love of the library has provided volunteer opportunities and perhaps even contributed to my daughter, Erin, becoming a librarian. — MH

Used Book Sale

It's coming! The Friends of the Modesto Library's annual Used Book Sale will take place outdoors on the Library Portico Saturday, May 4. Collection and sorting have already begun so if you have books or time to donate, please contact Pat Glatke (209) 985-7156 or Jean Haven (209) 526-9717. If you'd like to bring your books to the Modesto Library, please clearly mark them "Friends Used Book Sale."

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 _____

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 and select JOIN US to pay with PayPal or a credit card.

Resolutions Made... and Kept! *By Ellen Dambrosio, Membership Director*

I'm not one to make new year's resolutions, but I made one last year, and I'm thrilled to report that, with the help of many other Friends, I was successful! I resolved to increase the Friends membership total to 150 (for comparison's sake, we had 137 members in 2017) and our 2018 membership reached a new high of 157! That may not sound like very many considering the size of our city and the fact that the Library has 65,269 active library cards in its system. But we're definitely growing! (Keep in mind that some memberships are couples or families, and still others for businesses, so 157 paid memberships represent more than 157 people.)

When memberships increase, we can fund more library staff requests. Wouldn't it be great to grow our membership to a new high of 175 in 2019 to help the library even more? It's possible, but it can't happen without you.

First, we need you to renew your membership in 2019. Membership dues reset in January for the calendar year, **so it is now time to renew.** (A big shout out to those of you who renewed early!)

Second, let's all resolve to tell others about Friends of the Modesto Library and encourage more friends to join. Share this newsletter and point them to our website (<http://modestolibraryfriends.org>). Help us grow!

Remember, annual memberships account for 25-30% of all the income the Friends generate each year. We hope you'll choose a membership level that's right for you and mail your 2019 membership form (in this newsletter) this week. If you prefer to pay online with PayPal or a credit card, go to <http://modestolibraryfriends.org> and select the JOIN US tab at the top of the page.

Your continued membership is much appreciated.

WELCOME TO NEW MEMBERS

Welcome to our newest members who joined late in 2018. We're so glad to have you!

- Claudia Curtis
- Donna Flanders and Carl Collins
- Marita Garcia
- Tim Gormley
- Robert Harrington
- Jerry Jackman and Sandra Wilson
- Jeni Martin
- Dan and Marilyn Ricketts
- Marilyn L. Robinson
- Jessie L. West
- Lynne Dixon

Annual Meeting March 6

Mark your calendar now and plan to attend the Friends of the Modesto Library annual meeting, which will take place March 6 at 3:00 p.m. On the agenda: election of board officers, short program and Year in Review.

ANNUAL REPORT HIGHLIGHTS

County Librarian Diane McDonnell and staff recently published the Library's 2017-18 Annual Report. A few highlights:

- 1,696,673 visits to Stanislaus County Libraries
- 73,055 wireless logins
- 95,974 eBooks and eAudiobooks loaned
- 126,655 children, teens and adults attended library programs
- 9,510 passport applications processed
- 13,851 new library cards issued

Download the full report at www.stanislauslibrary.org/pdf/annualreport17-18.pdf

Around the Library - Kids and Teens Participate in Friends-sponsored Events

More than 185 wizards and muggles turned out for the Friends-sponsored Harry Potter Yule Ball in December. Designed with a teen audience in mind, more than 24 staff and volunteers helped create a magical evening.



Children were invited to Read to a Dog in December. Friends members Carmen Pedriolo and Anna Siedell were on hand to help out as kids ages 6 and up read to therapy dogs.



In Memory Of...



Friends of the Modesto Library recently received a donation in memory of local author Colleen Stanley Bare, who died December 11 at the age of 93. Colleen was the author of over 20 books for children and adults, and a longtime library supporter.

Several years ago, Colleen donated numerous boxes of her books to the Friends, which were used at programs such as Día de los Niños/Libros (Day of the Child, Day of the Book). FOML member Anne Britton remembers how parents and children commented on getting a special hard cover book from a local author to take

home that day.

Colleen loved to photograph animals, so her children's books often included photos she took herself. Some of the books, including *Toby the Tabby Kitten*, *Critter the Class Cat* and *Sammy the Dog Detective*, were based on local animals and their owners. Many of the books are in the Library's children's collection. Her other passion was local history. Colleen wrote a column for *The Modesto Bee* for over 20 years and was instrumental in the establishment and restoration of the McHenry Mansion.

A donation to Friends of the Modesto Library is a wonderful way to honor the memory of a special person. You can make a donation at modestolibraryfriends.org or send a check and details to FOML, P.O. Box 4565, Modesto CA 95352-4565.



FOML Approves Donation to Imagination Library

Imagination Library (IL), started by Dolly Parton in 1995, delivers quality books to children monthly, from birth to age 5, free of charge to the family. The 100 millionth book was delivered in 2018. Here in Stanislaus County, eight pilot schools participate in the program. The FOML Board of Directors recently approved a \$750 donation to the three IL schools in Modesto: Burbank, Chrysler and Sylvan Elementary. Funding for this program relies on donations from community groups and individuals. For one child, the cost is \$150 to create a library of 60 books by Kindergarten.

When a student enters Kindergarten without having had books read to them on a regular basis, they have many years of vocabulary development, listening skills, and comprehension to catch up on. It only makes sense to find a way to help families close this gap. IL works to do this by providing the books to build home libraries. We have had encouraging reports of older children in the home reading to the youngers, children excited to find books mailed directly to them and asking for favorites to be read again and again. FOML is excited to be involved in this community effort to build readers from the very early years, with the goal of all children beginning school Kinder-ready.

DIÁ DE LOS NIÑOS/ DIÁ DE LOS LIBROS

Why We Celebrate Children and Books on the Same Day

By Anne Britton



For more than a decade the Friends of Modesto Library has devoted one day in the year to putting books into children's hands for their home libraries: "forever" books, theirs to keep. Día de los Niños/ Día de los Libros is that day. We celebrate books and children together to highlight the importance that reading holds in our children's success. I could quote statistics and experts in brain development and reading acquisition, or pediatricians who "prescribe" books, but it all boils down to this: Fewer books in the home means struggle and less success in school. So, our mantra is: More books for more kids.

Over 400 children went home from last year's event with a new book. We hope for even more this year. Día is April 27 at the Modesto Library. Last year I talked to two children who came to get their free books because of a neighbor. They took home so much more, though. You see, it was their first visit to the library. With this treasure house open to them they now had a lot more books in their lives.

You may not know it, but YOU helped with the celebration and we thank you. Here's how you did it.

- If you bought a book at the November Scholastic Book Fair: **Thank You!** You helped put a book in the hands of a child. Profits from that sale are used to buy the "forever" books given away at Día or to support other library programs.
- If you helped staff the book fair: **Thank You!** Volunteers make it happen.
- If you just pay your dues: **Thank You!** Membership and donations support our sponsorship of the Modesto Library's programs like Día.

Clifford the Big Red Dog added to the excitement at FOML's November Scholastic Book Fair. More books for more kids was our goal, and we exceeded it. Shoppers bought over \$1,500 worth of new books for local youth-serving agencies. Plus, FOML's profit from the book fair is used to support library programs.



EVENTS

Ongoing Story Times and Programs

Wiggle Worms Story Time

Mondays & Tuesdays 10:15 a.m. & 11:15 a.m.

Preschool Story Time

Wednesdays 10:15 a.m.

Family Story Time

Second Tuesday 6:15 p.m. New!

Bilingual Story Time resumes in March

Lego Play

Wednesdays 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Game Day

First Thursday 3:30 p.m.

Coloring Day

Second Friday during open hours

DIY Kids!

Fourth Friday, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m. New!

Family Book Club

Last Thursday, 4 p.m. New!

FEBRUARY 2019

Monday, Feb. 4, 5:30 p.m.

Life Insurance 101

Join AAA insurance agent Juan Verdusco as he discusses the basics of life insurance including the different types and steps to purchase life insurance for your needs. A question and answer session will follow the presentation.

Thursday, Feb. 7, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Game Day

Get your game on! Bring the family and play giant versions of Jenga, dominoes, and more! Children under 4 must have direct adult supervision. In the Children's Room.

Friday, Feb. 8 (Open Hours)

Coloring Day

Add some color to your world! All ages can join us to unwind and have fun in a comfortable environment. Crayons and a variety of artistic designs will be available! In the Children's Room.

February 11-16

Mo Willems Week

Celebrate author Mo Willems in the Children's Library. Find the Pigeon hiding in the room to get a prize, take your picture in a book, and enjoy "Mo" fun all week in the Children's Department!

Tuesday, Feb. 12, 6:15 p.m.

Family Story Time: Mo Willems

Celebrate author Mo Willems with us at Family Story Time. We'll be featuring stories with favorite characters such as Gerald, Piggie, and the Pigeon!

Saturday, Feb. 16, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Scrapbooking Fun

Stop by the Modesto Library to learn about and practice the art of scrapbooking. This program is open to scrapbookers of all levels. Participants will have free time to work on their own scrapbooks. Some materials will be provided but participants are encouraged to bring their own. Drop in at any time. Prizes at every meeting.

Monday Feb. 18

Library CLOSED for PRESIDENTS DAY

Friday, Feb. 22, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

DIY Kids: Magnets

Unleash a magnetizing hour of fun with magnet themed activities. Build your very own LED magnet (while supplies last). This STEAM program is perfect for school-aged children. Under 6 must have direct parental supervision. In the Children's Room.

Saturday, Feb. 23, 2 – 4 p.m.

Read-to-a-Dog

This program gives children a relaxed, non-judgmental atmosphere to practice reading aloud. Designed for independent readers up to age 12. No sign-ups necessary. 558-7810.

Wednesday, Feb. 27, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

VA Medical Van

VA Mobile Medical Outreach - For veterans and family members of veterans. Check in at the Veterans Resource Center inside the Modesto Library. Enrollment Specialist, Medical Provider, and Veterans Service Officer will be onsite.

Thursday, Feb. 28, 4 p.m.

Family Book Club

Come together for a fun family read-aloud and discussion. We'll get you started and meet you next month to talk about the book. This month we're reading *The Boxcar Children* by Gertrude Chandler Warner.

MARCH 2019

Bilingual Story Times resume!

Thursdays 6:15 p.m.

Saturdays 10:15 a.m.

March 1 - 31

Summer Reading Bookmark Contest

Submit your artwork for a chance to have your art turned into a bookmark. Pick up contest rules for full details.

Saturday, Mar. 2, open hours

Dr. Seuss Day

Celebrate Dr. Seuss's birthday with us in the Children's Room. We'll have a blast with Seuss-themed crafts and coloring. Find the Cat's Hat in the room to get a prize!

March 2 – April 13

Cover-to-Cover: In-n-Out Burger Reading Program

Children aged 4 to 12 are invited to participate in In-N-Out Burger's Cover to Cover program. For every five books a child reads, they will earn a certificate for a free hamburger or cheeseburger from In-N-Out Burger. Pick up a reading log at any Stanislaus County Library branch. Limit 3, while supplies last.

Thursday, Mar. 7, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

TEEN Game Day - Oculus Rift

TEENS! The Oculus Rift Virtual Reality gear will be available for ages 13 & up in the Auditorium. We'll be playing the collaborative game *Don't Stop Talking* and *Nobody Explodes*. Due to the limitations of our grant only ages 13 and older will be able to wear the VR Headset.

Friday, March 8

Coloring Day

See Feb. 8

Tuesday, March 12, 6:15 p.m.

Family Story Time

Something fun for everyone! We'll share stories & activities perfect for families to enjoy together.

Saturday, Mar. 16, 12:30 - 4:30 p.m.

Scrapbooking Fun

Friday, March 22, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

DIY Kids:

Join us for an hour of fun STEAM activities. Children must be supervised by an adult. STEAM = Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts, and Math. In the Children's Dept.

Saturday, Mar. 23

Game of Thrones Party

Teens and adults are invited to help us celebrate the upcoming 8th season of *Game of Thrones*. Enjoy trivia, food, and crafts. Registration is not required. Drop-in when available. Time to be announced.

March 25-30

Pokémon vs Minecraft: Who would win?

Come vote for your favorites all week long in the Children's Department! While you're here make a block or make a pokéball to cast your vote.

Wednesday, Mar. 27, 10 a.m. - 2 p.m.

VA Medical Van

VA Mobile Medical Outreach - For veterans and family members of veterans. Check in at the Veterans Resource Center inside the Modesto Library. Enrollment Specialist, Medical Provider, and Veterans Service Officer will be onsite.

Thursday, Mar. 28, 4 p.m.

Family Book Club

Come together for a fun family read-aloud and discussion! We'll get you started and meet you next month to talk about the book! In the Children's Dept.

APRIL 2019

ALL REGULAR STORY TIMES ARE ON BREAK

April 1 – April 28

Schedule resumes April 29

Saturday, Apr. 13

Cover-to-Cover: In-n-Out Burger Reading Program ENDS

Thursday, Apr. 4, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

Game Day

Get your game on! Bring the family and play Jenga, dominoes, and more! Ginormous fun? You bet! In the Children's Room.

Wednesday, Apr. 9, 4 p.m.

Act!vated Story Theatre

The Goza Family is back to perform two multicultural folktales full of physical comedy, American Sign Language, music, song and dance. Audience participation is encouraged! FREE tickets are available one hour before the show.

Friday, April 12

Coloring Day

See Feb. 8

Monday, Apr. 15, 3:30 p.m.

Paper Airplane Derby

Come make paper airplanes and test them out in skill tests, races, and more!

Thursday, Apr. 25, 4 p.m.

Family Book Club

This month's discussion will be about *The Secret Garden* by Francis Hodges Burnett. In the Children's Dept.

Friday, Apr. 26, 3:30 – 4:30 p.m.

DIY Kids: Earthquake Table

Build marshmallow and toothpick towers and try to topple them on our earthquake table. Children must be supervised by an adult.

Saturday, Apr. 27, 10 a.m. - 1 p.m.

Día de los Niños/Día de los libros

Celebrate Day of the Child/Day of the Book with crafts, activities, games, and a special Bilingual Storytime. A variety of service organizations will provide information to participants. Each child will also receive a free new book while supplies last. Sponsored by Friends of the Modesto Library. Modesto Library Portico.

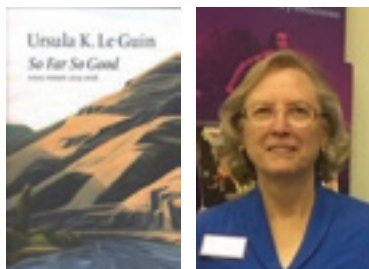
All programs are in the Modesto Library Auditorium, unless stated otherwise. Dates are subject to change. More programs to be announced. Please check the Stanislaus County Library's website at www.stanislauslibrary.org and click on Events and Classes to see information about all the great programs we have in store for you.

Sign up to receive news about library programs and services delivered straight to your inbox!



You can now subscribe to the library's monthly calendar of events, as well as periodic email blasts from your local library. These emails come in an engaging format that are easily accessible from a computer or mobile device. Go to <https://bit.ly/2D7eURA>.

READ ANY GOOD BOOKS LATELY? A LOOK AT WHAT FRIENDS ARE READING



***So Far, So Good: Final Poems 2014-2018* by Ursula K. Le Guin**

My favorite author died a year ago. Reviewer Peter Milne Greiner said it well: "These poems are candid in the extreme, casual in the faces of death, funny, glum, reverent, irreverent, certain, uncertain, but never trivial, never an afterthought, never the product of anything other than rigor and discipline and delight in what's left of the world."

Savor them. – Anne Britton



***If He Hollers Let Him Go* by Chester Himes**

My Salida Library book group selection for January, the subject of this book is four days in the life of Bob Jones. Three of the themes of this book are inequality left and right; choices made and the effects; and racism in wartime. A new author for me. An interesting and sometimes painful read. How much have things changed since 1945? Changes continue to be made sometimes, I think, with starts and stops. – Beverly Schlegel