

November 2016

Newsletter

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A Bookaneer's Life

FOR YOU AND ME

More Books for More Kids! That's why we do the Scholastic Book sales. And it's time to get ready for another one. This fall's **Bookaneer Book Fair: Where Books are the Treasure** is Nov. 9, 10 and 12. To find out what's in store and learn more about the benefits of these sales, see [Page 4](#)

This newsletter is published quarterly by the Friends of the Modesto Library. Copies may be requested by emailing 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 6:30 p.m. in the Library Conference Room and are open to all members or interested individuals.

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www.modestolibraryfriends.org

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Ad Hoc Historian: Joan Patterson

Many thanks to

ditto

for printing our newsletter

FROM OUR CO-PRESIDENT

A season for thanks

Here we are again, heading into the busiest time of the year, that season that some people refer to as Hallothanksmas, the non-stop whirlwind that the holidays represent. But it's the middle part of that word, THANKS, that speaks to me, when I think of all of the things that we have to be grateful for when it comes to the support of our beloved library.

- Thanks to the Stanislaus Library Foundation's hugely successful Author's Garden Gala, funding for Summer Reading and other children's programs can continue.

- I am thankful for the talented, dedicated members of the Friends of the Modesto Library leadership team and for the chance to get to know them better (you can, too, in the "7 Things to Know About Me" feature on [Page 5](#).

- We are so fortunate to have



committed and passionate library staff members, like Jessica Molina, whose story you can read on [Page 5](#)

Jessica is one of the new generation of librarians who bring fresh perspectives and excitement to the library.

- So thankful also for the recent upsurge in Friends membership. We recently

sent out special requests asking people to join or renew. You've responded generously, showing your commitment to the library. Thanks to Ellen Dambrosio for leading this charge and never, never, never giving up!

We can never show our gratitude enough ... but we can sure try! Maree and I are planning a Friends Appreciation party Dec. 14, 5 to 7 pm. We'd love to see you there.

Call (209) 527-1867 to RSVP and for location. Happy Hallothanksmas to All!

*Denise Nordell, co-president,
— Friends of the Modesto Library*

Friends need friends

Friends of the Library organizations (there's one at each of the 13 branches), are nonprofit groups that support the mission of the city's library and its services. Members pay annual membership dues, which make up a substantial portion of each organization's annual budget, and earn the right to be officially known as Friends of the Library.

We are extremely grateful for the 134 individuals, families, and businesses who currently are Friends of the Modesto Library, but we want to increase our ranks.

I'm not sure there is a single, best way to get more Friends, but I have one suggestion to get us started. I am asking that each

current Friend of the Modesto Library find one — just one — person, family, or business willing to join our organization in 2017 to show support of our cherished library. Pass along your copy of this newsletter after you read it. Give that person the link to our website where this and past newsletters are posted. We also have a direct link to a membership form and a form in this letter. See [Page 3](#)

If we each get just one new member, we'll exceed 200 members in no time. Can we hit a new record in 2017? I'm optimistic that we can. Let's give it a try!

— Ellen Dambrosio, membership director

CHECK IT OUT: NEWS & NOTES

LIBRARY PROVIDES SPACE FOR LITERACY PROGRAMS

The area near The Little Shop inside the library is probably familiar to you, but you might have wondered what, exactly, goes on in the cubicles and adjacent office.

Here, LearningQuest volunteer tutors work one-on-one with adults to improve their reading and writing skills. Some of these individuals are preparing to transfer to the HSE (High School Equivalency) program to earn their GEDs. Others are English language learners who are working to become fluent and literate in their adopted tongue.

Illiteracy is a big problem in Stanislaus County. More than 100,000 adults in our county have difficulty using an ATM machine or reading a bus schedule.

Not being able to read well affects everything from a person's ability to find a job, to read to their child, to filling out health forms. Stanislaus Literacy Center has partnered with Stanislaus County Library to provide the LearningQuest Adult Literacy program at the library which offers free educational services to adults.

Volunteers are recruited and trained to work individually with adult learners and help them learn to read and write in a way that will allow them to achieve their goals. Free curriculum materials are provided to assist tutors.

Together, the tutor and learner set goals and begin a partnership of learning that literally changes the life of the adult learner.

For LearningQuest, the library is a safe public place for tutors and students to work together. For the library, the partnership helps to fulfill its outreach goals. It's a great partnership. For more information about LearningQuest or becoming a tutor, visit <http://lqslc.com/>



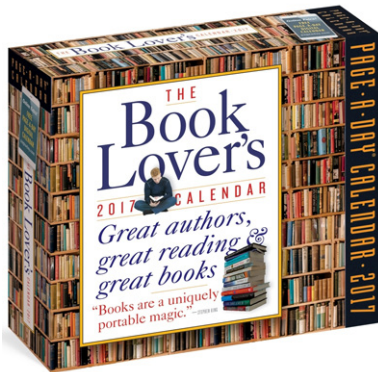
DID YOU KNOW?

Check out these statistics from the 2014-15 Stanislaus County Library Annual Report.

- Library visitors: 2.26 million visits to all 13 library branches
- Circulation of library materials: 1.9 million
- Circulation of eBooks: 42,698
- Public computer sessions: 186,774



YOGA ANYONE? Jessica Molina leads Yoga Play session at the library. Molina created and launched Bilingual Storytime & Yoga Play in conjunction with weekly story time. The program is the first of its kind that the library has offered.



BOOK LOVER'S CALENDAR:

The 2017 Book Lover's Calendar is available in The Little Shop – just in time for your holiday shopping. The Book Lover's Calendar feeds readers' appetites with hundreds of stellar recommendations: a

different book each day, all year long, for readers of all interests and obsessions. Get yours today.

GET READY FOR NEXT YEAR'S VOTE:

The November election is on everyone's mind, but it's not too early to be looking ahead to 2017, when citizens will be asked to vote "YES!" to maintain the current 1/8-cent sales tax that funds the 13 Stanislaus libraries. **YOUR HELP IS NEEDED!** What can you do? Give your endorsement. Walk a precinct. Help at the campaign office and find many more opportunities to lend a hand. Visit SaveStanislausLibraries.org



Be our Friend

Sign up here or go to www.modestolibraryfriends.org to sign up online and pay with PayPal.



Name(s) _____
 Address _____
 City/ZIP _____
 Phone _____
 Email: _____
 Today's date: _____

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: \$ _____

Make checks payable to FOML. Mail this form and your check to: Friends of the Modesto Library PO Box 4565, Modesto CA 95352

SCHOLASTIC BOOK FAIR

DETAILS:

Sponsored by
Scholastic and Friends
of the Modesto Library

Everyone is welcome
NEW books for kids
and the young at heart

Come see CLIFFORD
the Big Red Dog
Sat. 1:30 p.m.

Bring your camera

Information: 996-1531



SCHEDULE:

Nov. 9, 10, 12

Wednesday
3 p.m. – 7 p.m.
Thursday
10 a.m. – 7 p.m.
Saturday
10 a.m. – 4 p.m.

Modesto Library
Auditorium
1500 I St.

online shopping at www.scholastic.com/bf/foml

HOW IT WORKS:

Scholastic book sales help the library in many ways.



The discount sale in May earned FOML more than 400 books. Many of those helped bulk up the library children's collection with the rest distributed as free books to children and teens at programs such as Día De Los Niños/Libros. Scholastic's cash payment for hosting the sale funded all non-book costs for the annual Día event, too.



This fall's **Bookaneer Book Fair: Where Books are the Treasure** — Nov. 9, 10 and 12 — will generate more books for library programs as well as for youth serving agencies through Stanislaus READS! "Wish Lists." Last year's fall book fair bought roughly \$3,500 worth of books for our

community. We hope to up that even higher this year!

None of this would be possible without the scores of volunteers who set up, staff the cash registers, recommend books to shoppers, and straighten the shelves after what seems like the children have "stirred them with a stick," and pack down at the end.



And to all you library supporters who take the time to come shopping, or send in donations for the "Wish Lists" - THANK YOU for your support of our literacy effort!

— Anne Britton, Book Fair chairman



GETTING TO KNOW US

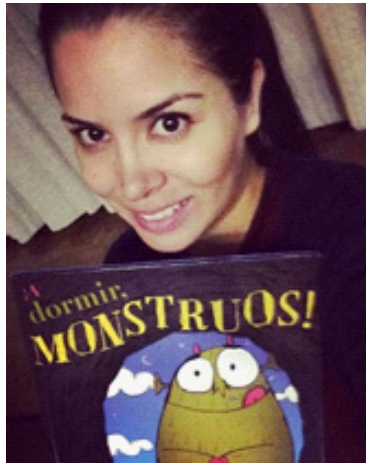
REWARDS ARE GREAT

For children's assistant librarian

One of several smiling faces you'll see when visiting the Children's Department at the Modesto Library is staffer Jessica Molina.

You might find her at the children's reference desk assisting children and their families locating library materials and helping with other library services. Or, as one of the department's bilingual storytellers, she could be leading a weekly Spanish or bilingual story time. Or she might be participating in an outreach event such as the Stanislaus County Fair, Earth Day Celebration and other community events sharing information with the public about the library's programs and services.

Molina, who has worked as a library assistant I in the Children's Department for more than three



Jessica Molina

years, especially enjoys outreach work. "I have worked at the WIC pop up library on a few occasions and it has been a wonderful experience," she says. "I have also had the opportunity to go out to schools to assist my coworkers in Early Literacy presentations where we delivered a bilingual presentation to parents."

A big fan of children's author Mo Willems, Molina loves connecting with young readers. Once, a child came to her to request a book, but he didn't know the name, the author or how to spell. So he drew a picture of the cover and handed it to her. "I looked at the paper and told him I didn't recognize that cover trying not to laugh. After

JESSICA'S TOP 5 CHILDREN'S BOOK PICKS

"The Little Prince" by Antoine de Saint-Exupéry

"The Witches" by Roald Dahl

"I'm the Biggest Thing in the Ocean" by Kevin Sherry

"Green Eggs and Ham" by Dr. Seuss

"Elephant & Piggie Series" by Mo Willems

asking him a few questions about the book luckily I was able to find it for him!"

In August, Molina, who is a certified yoga instructor, created and launched Bilingual Storytime & Yoga Play in conjunction with weekly story time. The program is the first of its kind that the library has offered.

OK, so maybe you WON'T see Jessica on your first visit. But keep trying and when you do see her, give her a well-deserved pat on the back for being such a valuable and valued member of the Library staff!

– Denise Nordell, co-president, Friends of the Modesto Library

SEVEN THINGS YOU NEED TO KNOW ABOUT ME

Jonaca Driscoll, Treasurer, Friends of the Modesto Library

Favorite Color: Green

Favorite Month: February, because the days are brighter, longer and warmer. So many trees are in bloom and spring is in the air.

Sun Sign: Taurus

Favorite Movie: The Shawshank Redemption

Favorite Dessert: Marionberry pie a lá mode

Favorite Thing About Being a FOML Board Member: Serving on the board allows me to see how we directly help the Modesto Library programs in various and important ways. It also allows me to interact with very pleasant people outside of my usual circle of friends.

Fun Fact About Me: For 20 years I ran a high school exchange with a high school in Germany. Every spring vacation 10-20 German students came to Modesto for 3 weeks and every spring we spent 3 days in Yosemite. Every summer the same number of Beyer High School students traveled for 3 weeks to Letmathe, Germany. It was a wonderful program.



DID YOU KNOW?

BEHIND CLOSED DOORS

Secrets of the Modesto Library



Special Collections

There's a locked door in our Modesto library (well, usually locked) that provides access to the Stanislaus Room. In the Stanislaus Room you will find Special Collections on genealogy research, history of California and cities and counties within the State, and the history of Stanislaus County and its towns.

To gain entrance, just ask at the Reference Desk. No password needed! A reference librarian will let you into Special Collections, located along the back wall of the library to the right of the Reference Desk and computer area. If you happen to visit on a Monday between 10 and 3ish there is no need to ask at the Reference Desk since the room will be open and staffed with Genealogy Society volunteers.

The collection, which includes 5,480 books and pamphlets and newsletters such as *Stepping Stones* from the Stanislaus Historical Society, contains reference material for in-library use only.

It is the perfect place for genealogy and history sleuthing. You can use a catalog or just browse the clearly marked shelves. I recently took a few minutes to discover what I could find out about my family. The first book off the shelf let me know the areas in Ireland my Gleason and Egan ancestors called home.



Genealogy Society members help out with the special collections.

Then I checked out Maryland marriages in the late 1600s and 1700s to see if I recognized any Hawkins ancestors.

Within the California shelves I discovered *The Complete Story of the San Francisco Horror* by the survivors and the rescuers of the 1906 earthquake. It features personal experiences and amazing photographs. A thorough reading will help me understand what my then 19-year-old grandfather experienced. Lastly, I took a peek in the small room off to the left which contains Stanislaus County history (including cities, river and

cemeteries).

I spent a few minutes visiting with Marilyn Belleville, a volunteer from the Genealogical Society of Stanislaus who has been doing genealogy for 40 years. Most Monday visitors, she says, start off with some version of "I'm trying to trace my family." She will explain what is available and even provide tips on how to organize information and access free genealogy web sites. Marilyn encourages people not to wait until retirement to start gathering family history since by that time key family members have usually died. She would like to see teenagers help by interviewing parents, grandparents and other relatives for oral or written histories.

—Maree Hawkins, co-president, *Friends of the Modesto Library*

EVENTS

NOVEMBER

No LEGO Play in November

Nov. 1-30. Thankful Tree

What are you thankful for this holiday season? Stop by the Modesto Library and write a note on a fall leaf to add to our tree.

Saturday, Nov. 5, 1 and 3 p.m.

Python Ron's Reptile Kingdom

"Python Ron" McGee will bring his favorite lizards and snakes to the library for a creepy crawly good time! This educational, hands-on show-and-tell is open to all ages and is perfect for grade school children.

Friday, Nov. 11

LIBRARY CLOSED for VETERANS DAY

Wednesday, Nov. 16, 4:30 p.m.

Great Valley Museum: Phases of Matter

Through demonstrations and hands-on activities, children will learn how mixing, cooling, and heating can change matter from one form to another. Recommended for ages 5-10.

Friday, Nov. 18, 10:30 a.m.-noon.

Healthy Eating During the Holidays.

Join the Modesto Library and the Healthy Aging Association as we celebrate National Diabetes Month. Enjoy a free cooking demonstration accompanied by nutrition information.

Friday, Nov. 18, 6 - 8 p.m.

Hogwarts Yule Ball

On Friday we will host a family-friendly Yule Ball! This event is most suitable for Hogwarts aged students (11-19) but families and Hogwarts alumni are also welcome. Tickets are free but are required to attend this special after-hours event, so ask for details and pick up Yule

BOOK SALE Nov. 9, 10, 12

Scholastic Book Fair annual fundraiser in support of the library and literacy in Stanislaus County. New books for children and teens, plus special appearance by Clifford the Big Red Dog on Saturday at 1:30 p.m. Save the date! Bring your camera and have a lot of fun. We see many Mr. and Mrs. Clauses shopping here for the holidays.



Ball tickets at the Children's Desk during Hogwarts Week!

Saturday, Nov. 19 12-4 p.m., International Games Day at the Modesto Library.

Celebrate International Games Day with the Modesto Library. All ages are welcome to drop in to play with fellow players. We will provide games but you are welcome to bring your own. Don't miss out on all of the fun. Upstairs.

Saturday, Nov. 19, 1 p.m.

Song of the San Joaquin

Poetry Reading of the Fall issue of Song of the San Joaquin, followed by an open mic. Booklets and subscription cards are available at the reading. Auditorium.

Nov. 20 – Jan. 1.

STORY TIMES BREAK

Wiggle Worms, Story Time, Cuentos en Español, and Bilingual Story Time will resume regular program hours January 2, 2017.

Nov. 24, 25.

LIBRARY CLOSED for THANKSGIVING

DECEMBER

Wednesdays in December 3:30 p.m.

LEGO Play

Monday, Dec. 12, 7 p.m.

San Francisco Shakespeare Festival Presents: Twelfth Night

One-hour touring production with a cast of professional actors in costume, with set, props and live music.

Tuesday, Dec. 13, 6:15 p.m.

Storybook Sing-along! For all ages.

Saturday, Dec. 17, 1 -- 3 p.m.

Color Yourself Calm: Coloring for

Grown Ups.

Coloring isn't just for kids anymore! Adults can benefit greatly from the proven calming effects of coloring. Let us help you relax and de-stress with a day of coloring, conversation, and refreshments. We will provide coloring sheets designed for adults as well as colored pencils and crayons. Adults only, please. Drop-in, no sign up required.

Monday, Dec. 19, 10:15 a.m.

Dance and Play

Join us for this music filled half hour of fun for fans of our Story Time music with shakers, scarves and more! All ages welcome.

Monday, Dec. 19, 5 p.m.

Holiday Movie for the Family.

Take time out from the holiday rush and join us for a fun, classic holiday movie. This film, "Home Alone," about Kevin McCallister protecting his home after he is left alone is rated PG for Parental Guidance. Drop-in, no sign up required.

Saturday, Dec. 24

LIBRARY CLOSSES at NOON

Monday, Dec. 26

LIBRARY CLOSED

Tuesday, Dec. 27, 6:15 p.m.

Glow-in-the Dark Story Time

It's dark outside but we'll light up the auditorium with stories that glow! We will turn the lights out for most of this Story Time but glow sticks will be provided. All ages welcome.

JANUARY

Monday, Jan. 2

LIBRARY CLOSED

Tuesday, Jan. 3

STORY TIMES RESUME at Modesto Library

HOGWARTS WEEK Nov 14 – 18

Have a magical time at the library! To celebrate the new movie in the Harry Potter universe, "Fantastic Beasts and Where to Find Them," there will be drop-in activities all week long in the Children's Department.

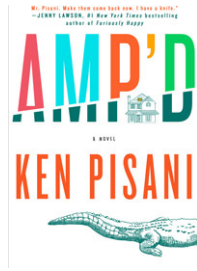


Dates subject to change. More programs to be announced. Please check www.stanislauslibrary.org and click on events.

QUICK STARTS

First sentences from selections in the New Book area

"If this were a book you'd know that the guy you meet on Page 1, shattered and mutilated and staring into the abyss,

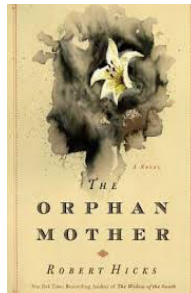
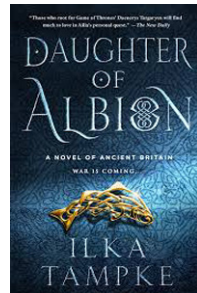


would by the end of the story transcend his terrible circumstances to become a better man."

From "Amp'd" — by Ken Pisani

"I was not yet one day old when Cookmother found me on the doorstep of the Tribequeen's kitchen."

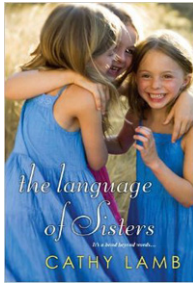
From "Daughter of Albion" — by Ilka Tampke



"To the shabby house on Columbia Avenue they came, the four of them, all in black, narrow ties fastened with jeweled stickpins about their necks."

From "The Orphan Mother" by — Robert Hicks

"I was talented at pick-pocketing."
From "The Language of Sisters" — by Cathy Lamb

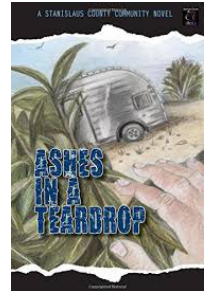


"Hidden among the shadows outside Caesar's marble-columned villa, the assassin Valerius gazed back across the valley to Rome."

From "The Shards of Heaven" — by Michael Livingston



"Come on, slowpoke!"
From "Ashes in a Teardrop, a Stanislaus County Community Novel, Chapter One" — by Michael Maxwell



Honor a loved one with a memorial gift

When a loved one passes away, consider making a donation to the Friends of the Modesto Library in his or her memory. We will list memorial gifts in each newsletter:

In September, Christine Brereton, past-president of the Friends of the Modesto Library, below right, made a donation in memory of friend Jim West,

above left, who died in March. Jim was active in the community as a businessman (J.S. West has been a family business for more than a century), a family man, and a supporter of the arts, education, health, and other causes.

It's easy to give a gift and make a lasting contribution that honors friends and loved ones. Donations may be made to Friends of the Modesto Library. Memorial gifts will be listed in upcoming issues of the Friends newsletter:

— Ellen Dambrosio, membership director

